

Army general chasing Abu Sayyaf sacked

STORY ON PAGE A2



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Cops sport 'JV cut'

DI KAMI SIPSIP,
SUPPORTIVE
LANG !!



BY BLANCHE
S. RIVERA

CHECK out what's
hot in San Juan: the
"JV cut."

It seems that the
flat top sported by
new Mayor Joseph
Victor Ejercito is all
COPS/ A13

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS

Sunday

JULY 8, 2001

★

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IN Sunday LIFESTYLE

Playtime with
"Conversations
with God" author
Neale Donald
Walsch/DI
TV journalist
Vicky Morales
says "I do"/E1



MR. & MS KING REYNO
NEE VICKY MORALES

DOLE backs P125 raise

Minimum wage hike to cope with rising costs

BY NORMAN BORDADORA

TAKING a more pro-active stance on what could soon be an explosive issue, Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas yesterday pushed for a P125 increase in the minimum pay of workers in Metro Manila to enable them to cope with the rising cost of living.

"Considering that a family of six needs at least P500 a day to meet their everyday needs, a P125 increase in the minimum wage is only reasonable," Sto. Tomas said in a press statement.

Adjusting the daily basic pay from P250 to P375 would benefit about 750,000 minimum wage earners in Metro Manila.

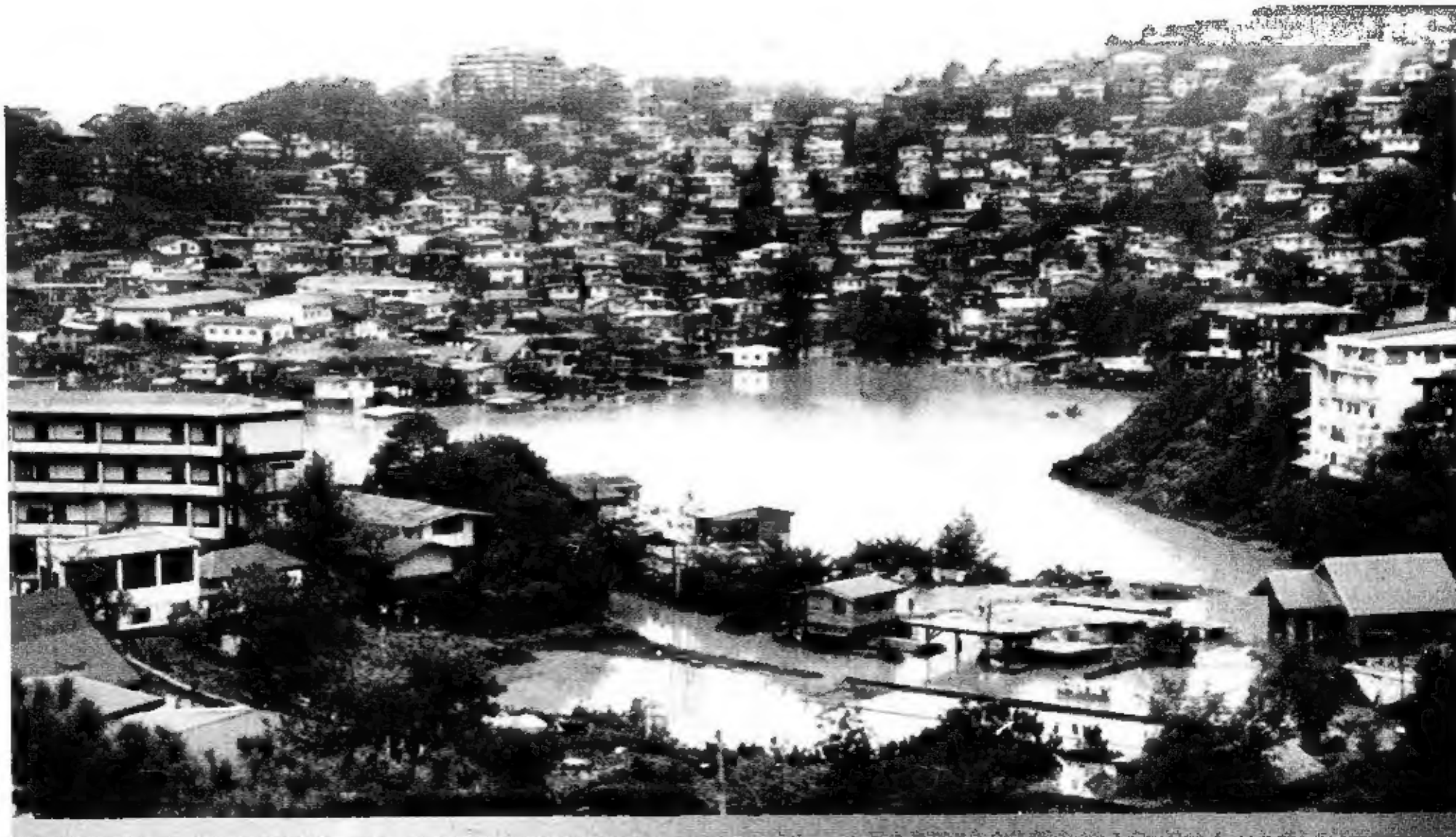
Last week, she ordered the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Boards to immediately review and adjust the minimum wage rates across the country without waiting for formal petitions from trade unions.

The wage boards—made up of representatives of the labor department, trade unions and management groups—have the sole power to determine basic pay rates in their prospective regions.

In her statement, however, Sto. Tomas warned that higher wages might force some companies to lay off workers or even close down.

Even so, moderate and militant groups are supporting the labor secretary's position.

"If government employees got a 5-percent salary increase effective DOLE/ A13



THE CALM after the storm settles on Baguio City, which experienced unprecedented flooding even if it is located 5000 feet above sea level.

TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

'Feria' devastation revives bill on total log ban

BY ARMAND N. NOCUM
AND THE PDI NORTHERN
LUZON BUREAU

SENATE President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. has re-filed a controversial bill seeking the imposition of a total ban on logging in order to restore the fast dwindling forest cover and make the country better prepared for storms and typhoons.

Pimentel re-filed the bill in view

of the destruction wrought by Typhoon Feria in Northern and Central Luzon, including massive flooding in such areas as Baguio City, which sits 5,000 feet above sea level.

"Our forests are being denuded at a very alarming rate. Unless checked seasonably by the government, the Philippines will soon turn into a desert," Pimentel said in a statement.

At this writing the number of

deaths caused by landslides, drowning and electrocution in Northern and Central Luzon has reached 102, and several areas in Baguio and other cities and provinces were still flooded.

In Pangasinan, San Manuel Mayor Salvador Perez said the floods in his town could have been partly caused by the construction of the \$1-billion San Roque multipurpose dam.

"The trees in (the) area were cut down to give way to the dam. The quarrying in Narra village could have worsened the situation, too," Perez said.

In Pimentel's bill, the total ban on logging will last for 25 years, apply to timberland, forest reserves and watersheds, and exclude legitimate commercial tree farms.

But the proposal could kick up another skirmish between Pimentel

and Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez.

In 1988 when they were both senators, Alvarez, a proponent of selective logging, successfully blocked Pimentel's effort to introduce Senate Bill No. 846 seeking a total log ban.

Logging, being an extractive industry, destroys forest resources faster than nature's regenerative FERIA/ A13

'Pro-Gloria but not pro-administration'

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA

THE NEW owner of the Manila Times, Dante Ang, is regarded as the de facto press secretary in Malacañang.

By Ang's own admission, he has been President Macapagal-Arroyo's publicist since 1993.

So, the "new" Manila Times "will not be pro-administration but pro-Gloria," according to Ang.

Ang confirmed his recent purchase of the newspaper from businessman-turned-congressman Mark Jimenez, an ex-crony of ousted President Joseph Estrada, but de-

nied that he paid P70 million for it. Still, he did not confirm or deny that the price was P42 million—P20 million for the rights and P22 million for unpaid debts incurred under the previous management.

Ang will formally sit as the paper's publisher and board chair starting on July 15. It will be "re-launched" on Aug. 8.

He claimed there would be no conflict in his being the President's "private publicist" and publisher of the Times and of Kabayan, a Filipino-language broadsheet that he said he would turn into a tabloid.

PRO-GLORIA/ A13

Ilusorio daughter wants mother executor of will

BY ALCUIN PAPA

IN WHAT could be the finale of the country's most public and bitter family feud, the youngest daughter of the late multimillionaire, Potenciano Ilusorio, has asked the court to assign her mother, Erlinda Kalaw-Ilusorio, as the sole administrator of her father's estate.

In a petition filed with the Parañaque Regional Trial Court on July 6, Shereen Ilusorio, 41, asked the court to instigate probate pro-

ceedings on the last will and testament of her father.

Probate proceedings involve proving the validity of a will and determine the division of the deceased's estate according to the will. It also involves the appointment of an administrator and settlement of all claims to the estate.

The New York City-based Shereen petitioned the court to exclude her two sisters, Ma. Erlinda "Lin" Ilusorio-Bildner and Sylvia ILUSORIO/ A13



TWO for the road, Fil-American buddies Brad Newsham and farmer and Banaue tour guide, Antonio Tocdaan make their dream come true.

ALL-EXPENSE-PAID TOUR

Cabbie drives Pinoy pal around America

BY JENNIE L. ILLUSTRE
PDI Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—The taxicab meter read \$19,800, the unpaid fare for two friends' journey of more than 8,500 kilometers.

On the eve of Fil-Am Friendship Day, American cab driver and author Bradley "Brad" Newsham, 49, drove a coffee-colored Ford 2000 taxi through the gates of the Philippine Embassy here.

He had one passenger: Filipino farmer and Banaue tour guide Antonio Tocdaan, 42.

July 3 marked the fulfillment of a promise Newsham made in 1989 to Tocdaan: to treat the Filipino, whom he had met in Banaue, to an all-expense-paid tour of the United States.

Two months ago, the American mailed a round-trip economy class ticket, appropriately purchased from Philippine Airlines (PAL) for \$1,146, to Tocdaan, who over time has taught Newsham the word "kaibigan."

On June 20, the pair left San Francisco, California, for this US capital. En route on their 13-day trip, they took in Lake Tahoe, Las Vegas, Colorado, Kansas City, St. Louis and New York, stopping along the way so Newsham could introduce "my buddy Tony" to his

American relatives and friends.

The tour has gotten a lot of media mileage. CBS' "Early Show" interviewed them in San Francisco. The San Francisco Chronicle wrote about them. The Christian Science Monitor ran a front-page story. The Washington Post plans to feature them, too.

On American Independence Day, the Banaue tour guide got his first taste of a typical Fourth of July celebration on embassy grounds, complete with a community picnic and fireworks display, before flying back to San Francisco with Brad.

"My friend has taught me that dreams do come true," said a euphoric Tony, his face beaming under a black hat from the Grand Canyon.

A friend of Brad's had lent the cab for free. "Generosity," Newsham quipped, "begets generosity."

Tony used to own a small curio shop at View Point in Banaue, where he met Brad, a tourist, in November 1988.

"I wanted to go to Boracay and other beaches in the Philippines. But a friend told me to go to Banaue instead. I'm glad I did, or I would not have met Tony," Brad told the INQUIRER.

"Perhaps to others, it might seem CABBIE/ A13

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OPINION

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Irene's account

IF the Department of Justice completes it as scheduled, a full report on Irene Marcos-Araneta's alleged money-laundering attempt in Germany last February will be on the President's desk tomorrow. We hope the report will include a recommendation to investigate the matter and then prosecute the case to the fullest extent of the law—not in Germany or Switzerland, but in the Philippines.

EDITORIALS

Unless an avalanche of righteousness overwhelms the Swiss banking conscience, we can expect the Swiss government to play according to script by making noises about bilateral cooperation while dragging its feet on any action that might disrupt the orderly moneymaking of the gnomes of Zurich.

The German government has been more forthright. Conscious of the weight of its history, and mindful of its responsibility to help prevent the use of supposedly neutral banking systems to legitimize enormous sums of ill-gotten money, it has hosted the official Philippine fact-finding delegation with cooperation and dispatch.

But if we were to base our hopes on recovering the Marcos billions purely on the kindness of foreigners, then perhaps nothing will come of the search.

This much we already know:

- Irene Marcos-Araneta personally opened an account with the Dusseldorf branch of Deutsche Bank on Feb. 12, 2000.

- On Feb. 14, she instructed the Zurich branch of the Union Bank of Switzerland, by fax, to close her accounts, including but not limited to all accounts and sub-accounts under her client account number 885931, and to transfer her deposits to the new Deutsche Bank account.

- On Feb. 16, Deutsche Bank officials notified the German government of the suspicious transaction-in-the-making, prompting the Germans to investigate.

- The Deutsche Bank head office in Frankfurt, through which the instructions by fax were coured, later confirmed the authenticity of the fax document.

Why does any of this matter? Because in press statements before and after the INQUIRER broke the story last March, the late dictator's second daughter issued blanket denials. The weight of the denial is on the Swiss side, because to date, even after the Swiss government pledged last May to cooperate with the Philippine investigation, only non-committal statements have been issued by the Swiss.

But now there is no denying the fact that she had been in Germany, and that she had attempted to transfer the money from her 885931 account in UBS. This account was estimated by Australian investigator Reiner Jacobi to contain as much as \$13.2 billion in June 1998. Now there is even video evidence that Irene and her husband Greggory were indeed in the Dusseldorf branch.

"It's a fact for us that she came here," said Johannes Mocken, spokesperson of the Dusseldorf prosecutor's office.

Haydee's mission

BECAUSE the attempt to launder money was not consummated, Irene Marcos-Araneta's acts are not considered illegal in Germany.

But this brazen attempt to take advantage of the immediate post-Edsa II turmoil and withdraw money from the controversial UBS account when the rest of the world wasn't looking should have special implications back here. At the very least, it does three things. It adds more circumstantial evidence to the Marcos ill-gotten wealth cases. It reinvigorates these cases with fresh leads and renewed public interest, at a time when the attention is focused on Marcos' pupil, Joseph Estrada, and his plunder case. And it holds the promise of finally convincing the feisty, uncompromising Haydee Yorac to accept the administration's offer to head the Presidential Commission on Good Government.

Yes, the Macapagal administration should continue to press its Swiss and German counterparts to investigate the Marcos billions. But the government should turn with renewed attention to the cases filed in the Philippines.

It took the Swiss authorities half a century to acknowledge that the Nazi regime had funneled money forced from Jewish victims of the Holocaust through the Swiss banking system. At that rate, the country's best hope of recovering the Marcos billions may actually lie within its borders, not outside.

NOW that we're again thinking of amending the Constitution, I would like, if I may, to offer the following proposals:

Reinstate the two-party system. Every president of the Philippines elected under the present multi-party system won only by minority vote. Even Erap got less than 40 percent of the total votes cast, with the other 60 percent distributed among his rivals. The current system has only confused and diluted the people's will.

Abolish the party-list membership. It violates the rule of the majority as a basic principle of republicanism. The so-called "marginalized" groups should unite as one party to compete on its own with the other parties instead of being privileged to enter Congress by the back door. Moreover, party-list nominees are "blindly" elected without the people knowing about their character and credentials.

Require academic qualifications for all elective officials like appointive officials. This will prevent the pollution of the public service with ignoramuses and, possibly, even morons. Look at the IQ of some of our high elective offices today and lately. Mere literacy is not enough, and neither is show-biz stardom or broadcast notoriety.

Restore the senatorial districts. Election at large for senators has become too expensive and prone to irregularities more easily detected in smaller electoral units. Moreover, some of our present and former senators could not have won if they had run from senatorial districts—Miriam Defensor-Santiago was repudiated in her own province. Distance lends enchantment but also conceals the warts.

Remove the term limits for members of Congress and local elective officials. These have only aggravated the problem of political dynasties and enabled inexperienced and incompetent relatives to serve as benchwarmers for their principals. The way some families control constituencies as if they were exclusive fiefdoms stultifies the individual merit and ambitions of outsiders.

Vest in Congress the sole power to impeach, by two-thirds vote of each House, voting separately. Trial shall be conducted by a High Court of Impeachment to be activated when needed and com-

WHERE in the world can you find passenger trains which also serve as vehicles for trash and garbage? Only in the Philippines! By the time a Philippine National Railways train reaches the Tutuban main station, its roof would be full of trash and garbage in plastic bags thrown from homes and shanties along the railroad tracks.

So, what did our railroad people do? They made the roof of the trains triangular in shape. Now, the PNR trains carry no trash. *Galing talaga ng Pinoy.*

We too should learn not to carry trash and garbage of yesteryears and the burdens of today and the worries of tomorrow. Shake off the trash and don't let the garbage burden you. Remember you and I are not obliged to carry unnecessary "excess" luggage as we go on in life.

The Gospel today (Lk. 10:1-2, 17-20) speaks about Jesus' instructions to His disciples as they go about their mission. They are to travel light and they are to bring only peace wherever they go. In other words, they are to carry no trash or garbage with them and within them.

Many a disciple has fallen along the way because he is loaded, overloaded and laden with so much material possessions and attachments, and so much personal agenda. A true disciple must have God's agenda and the people's agenda over and above his personal agenda.

This reminds me of a sharing by one of our Filipino missionaries in Argentina. Fr. Jun Castro, SVD, relates that one Christmas Eve, he was in a hurry to return to his main station after his barrio Mass to make a long distance call to his family here back home. Many of the Mass-goers wanted to hitch a ride, but he made excuses since he thought the weight of added passengers would slow him down. He regretted this decision later because the pick-up could not make it through the loose dirt road going uphill since it was too

Reexamining the Constitution

SEPARATE
OPINION

Isagani
A. Cruz



posed of eminent jurists removable by the body itself. Headed by the Chief Justice, it shall rule on legal and factual questions and can convict, without appeal, only by unanimous vote.

Specify the occasions when an Acting President can replace the President. Current interpretation confines the succession to physical or mental incapacity but does not include cases when the President wants to enjoy a respite from official duties, as where he intends to take a vacation abroad or go on a honeymoon. He is entitled to a leave of absence like any other public servant.

Make the prohibition against multiple positions more definite and restrictive. Persons occupying such positions should be required to refund all illegally collected compensation which could run into millions of pesos without the people's knowledge or consent. Malacatang, with the apparent toleration of Congress, has ignored the present provision as clearly interpreted by the Supreme Court.

Government contracts in which any member of Congress is "financially interested," directly or indirectly, should be considered void *ab initio*. All parties to such agreements should be prosecuted and the legislator benefited should, upon conviction, be expelled. The Ombudsman should act upon complaints for violations of this rule within 30 days from filing.

If Congress extends the President's proclamation of martial law or the suspension of the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, the extension should also not exceed 60 days instead of being indefinite under the present charter. The president, as commander in chief can, in emergencies, easily pressure Congress into making an open-ended extension that can last for years and im-

pose another dictatorship.

The power of the Senate to concur with treaties and other international agreements should cover executive agreements, which the President may now conclude without such concurrence. At present, the President can simply convert a treaty disapproved by our Senate into an executive agreement, as Theodore Roosevelt did when the US Senate rejected the treaty he concluded with the Dominican Republic.

To make the Judicial and Bar Council more independent, its regular members should not be eligible for reappointment as now allowed. Such members may, in hopes of being rewarded with another term and all its perquisites, submit to the President's commands to nominate his intended appointees, thus making judicial appointments, especially to the Supreme Court, a mere charade.

The current voting requirement for a declaration of unconstitutionality by the Supreme Court (a majority of the members who deliberated and voted on the issue) should be discarded. The two-thirds rule under the 1935 and 1973 Constitutions is more reasonable and practical. Under the present charter, such declaration can be made by as few as five justices of the Supreme Court, constituting a majority of the quorum of eight.

Clarify the conflict between the claims of indigenous peoples to their ancestral lands and the exclusive right of the State to its natural resources as claimed in the past and present Constitutions. The recent case against the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act failed to resolve this issue categorically with an inconclusive 7-7 vote. This is too serious a question to be left hanging in the air.

Subject to more suggestions I may take in the future, I will stress here that the whole charter should be rewritten to make it less loquacious. The good written constitution should be limited to fundamental principles, to be implemented by legislation that can be easily changed as the need arises. Every citizen should have a nodding acquaintance at least with the 1987 Constitution. Regrettably, even lawyers hesitate to plow through the copious document because it reads like a codification of trivialities.

Carry no trash

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry
M. Orbos, SVD



light! Soon the parishioners caught up with him, helped him out of the mess and all together they made it back. They chided him later saying, "You see Father, if you leave us, you'll never get to where you are going."

A very good reminder indeed for all of us that our final destination is heaven, and that we need all the help we can get to make it there, together.

The harvest for the Kingdom of God is abundant, but the laborers are few...because of you! People often forget that they are laborers for the kingdom, too. It is not just we, religious, missionaries and priests, who should be doing this. You have a mission to do for the Lord. Unless and until you make a personal mission commitment for the Lord, the laborers will always be few.

Has your family, your town, your parish, your office or your community produced a priest or a religious already? Let us continue to search for, encourage and help nurture vocations for the priestly and religious life. Please continue to pray for more vocations. For those who feel they have a vocation, remember "bukas yon." It is open for you. And don't say, "bukas yon." Don't postpone or deny it.

Over the weekend, I gave a recollection at Puerto Galera in Oriental Mindoro upon the invitation of my good friend and confrere Fr. Jose San Juan, whom we fondly call Father SJ, SVD. It was a refreshing experience to

walk along the mission trails once again and to feel the simplicity and warmth of the people. Just walking around the town, exchanging greetings and smiles or just waving at people reminded me of Jesus' mandate to bring peace wherever we go.

One touching and humbling moment was when a woman ran up to me with a plastic bag containing six mangoes as her *pabon* for me. This simple *tindera* was a reminder of God's providence and the simple people's generosity.

Very refreshing in itself was the experience of being with Father SJ once again. This missionary has spent all his 27 years as a priest serving different towns in Oriental Mindoro. A former "Iawag ng Tanghalan" champion before he entered the seminary, Father SJ uses his voice to sing God's praises wherever he goes. But more than talents, more than abilities, Father SJ has the caring heart of a pastor. He loves his people, and his people love him.

But for me, Father SJ's biggest achievement is his care and concern for his fellow priests, including this priest. Father SJ is one priest who carries no trash. He has helped "break-in" about 30 new priests through the years and has helped many a brother priest. As Father SJ would sing, "He ain't heavy, he's my brother."

The XVDs, an association of ex-SVD seminarians, will have their reunion at the Christ the King Seminary on July 22. Called but not chosen, they continue with their mission for the Lord. Through a bingo, they are raising money to raise funds to be able to send rosaries to their former classmates who are now serving as missionaries in foreign lands. Please help. Call 725-9006 or 721-7457.

A moment with the Lord:
Lord, help me to travel light and carry no trash as I go on in life. Amen.

On planes and claims

CROSSCURRENTS



Antonio
T. Carpio

a contract involving the expenditure of public funds.

As a sanction for any violation of these two requirements, the Code declares that "any contract entered into contrary to the (se) requirements... shall be void." Under the Civil Code, contracts which are "expressly prohibited or declared void by law" are "void from the very beginning." The Code, moreover, provides that any public official violating these two requirements "shall be dismissed from the service."

The C-130 contract is now being reviewed by the Neda before its submission to the President. The issue here is not the wisdom of acquiring the four C-130s because everyone agrees that our AFP badly needs these planes. The issue is the failure to comply with the contract with constitutional and statutory requirements, and which in the end will again delay the acquisition of much-needed transport planes for the military.

On another constitutional issue, my friend Adolfo Azcuna, a former presidential legal counsel and ConCom delegate, wrote a note, on the definition of our national territory, that the "present charter does not include territories over which the Philippines has historic right or legal title." To support this, he cited the present provision which states "over which the Philippines has sovereignty or jurisdiction" replacing the phrase "historic right or legal title."

The present phrase, as proposed by Fr. Joaquin Bernas, originally read, "over which the Philippines exercises sovereignty or jurisdiction." This provision did not get the required majority vote because many delegates considered it an abandonment of our Sabah claim. Under the 1973 Constitution, the shorthand for our claim to Sabah, Kalayaan Islands and other territories was the phrase "historic right or legal title."

Former Chief Justice Roberto Concepcion proposed changing the words "exercises sovereignty or jurisdiction" to "has sovereignty or jurisdiction," to convey the meaning that our national territory is not limited to territories over which the Philippines actually exercises sovereignty. Said Concepcion: "To require the exercise of our sovereignty over territories not forming part of our archipelago is to deal a death blow upon our Sabah claim."

Concepcion's proposal received the required majority vote, and so we now have this new language to cover our territorial claims. From the 1973 phrase "all the other territories belonging to the Philippines by historic right or legal title," which some ConCom delegates considered offensive to Malaysia, we now have the phrase "all other territories over which the Philippines has sovereignty or jurisdiction."

The question is, does the new language include our claim to Sabah, Kalayaan Islands and other territories which used to fall under the phrase "historic right or legal title"? Is the new language just a less offensive, and a more diplomatic formulation, without substantially changing our territorial claims under the old phrase "historic right or legal title"?

Bernas, in his textbook on the Constitution, writes that the new language includes "any other territory over which the Philippines might establish sovereignty or jurisdiction in the future." One means of achieving this is to show historic right or legal title to such territory, which brings us back to the old language. Clearly, the evolution of the new language in the present Constitution includes our claims to territories over which the Philippines has historic right or legal title.

What was the intent of those who wanted to remove the phrase "historic right or legal title"? Obviously, their intent was to remove our territorial claims from the rigidity of a constitutional principle and bring them down to executive or congressional disposition—a worthy objective indeed.

But did they succeed? If they succeeded, then the President can now by mere executive agreement drop our claim to Sabah. Or Congress can now pass a law renouncing our Sabah claim. Is this constitutionally possible?

Murder by mother

AT LARGE



Rina
Jimenez-David

jealousy—or all of the above—have been such that it overpowered reason and motherly compassion?

Doctors and emergency room personnel reported that when the husband rushed to the hospital, all the mother could say to him was: "Do you love me? Tell me you love me!" This, even as doctors frantically tried to pry from her what poison she and her sons had taken so they could use the proper antidote. Her suicide note, attached to their wedding picture, promised her husband that if she got so fed up with his infidelity that she would be driven to suicide, she would take his children with her.

In the face of this chilling tale of a murderous and vengeful mother, maybe it WAS easier to believe that the cyanide was in the hamburger.

WE do have proof, though, that Rosalina Sabala's tragic trip to the mall was neither unique nor the worst instance yet of "murder by mother."

Just the other week, in the United States, Andrea Yates, so devoted a mother she chose to homeschool her older children, was found to have drowned her four boys and infant daughter in the bathtub. "Monstrous," "perverse" and "unthinkable," were words newsmagazines used to describe the deed, but it turns out that "about 200 children are killed by their mothers every year."

Of course, everyone will say that these mothers were unhinged, and they probably are, to some degree. Yates was diagnosed as suffering from postpartum psychosis, a far more severe stage of the depression that women usually feel after delivery. Yates was in fact already under medication, but her father's death unleashed the demons anew.

What kind of madness possessed Rosalina, in turn? How could she have turned her fury and rage—directed at her husband—toward herself, and toward innocent parties like her sons?

Whatever the diagnosis, one thing seems clear. Mothers are inexorably, inextricably tied to their children. Even after the umbilical cord is detached, far more durable bonds remain, a psychic connection, an emotional link stronger than flesh.

But, tied to their children by duty and fate, could it be that some mothers feel that if they die, their children, too must die?

MYTHS surround motherhood, and indeed an entire ideology has grown up around it. People, especially men in positions of power over women, peddle the "maternal instinct," as if every baby girl is born "programmed" with the instinct, desire, skills and resilience to raise tiny howling infants into full-fledged rational adults (and don't forget the tumultuous years of adolescence!).

What every woman who has ever been a mother knows, though, is that the job is not that easy. That oftentimes, "at the end of one's rope," "feeling like climbing the walls," "driven to the end of one's wits," a mother can be so stressed out and harried that she wishes she could walk out altogether. But, not being able to do that, she counts to 10, holds her breath and finds the last bit of sanity to deal with the little monsters. Maybe she'll pick a fight with Daddy when he gets home. Maybe she'll take to drink. Or she could start lashing out at the children, hitting, screaming and abusing. Or she could feel like ending it all, and feeling somehow still responsible for her children, will contemplate taking them with her.

As our stories prove, not all mothers are saints. But in persisting in the myth of the sainted and all-knowing madonna, we make it impossible for society to acknowledge that mothers need help, because the work of raising the child is not just the work of a village, but of an entire society.

Destabilization plot or demolition job?

PUBLIC LIVES



Randy
David

What if Ador is telling the truth? Then we must believe that since 1998, Lacson and his lieutenants have presided over the most vicious crime syndicate in the country, with various teams deployed for smuggling, drug-running, kidnap-for-ransom and assassination. We have to believe that the defunct Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force (PAOCTF) led by Lacson was nothing but a cover for criminal activities. And we will have to conclude that indeed crime is being used to destabilize the present government and to pave the way for the eventual capture of the presidency by Lacson either by coup or by election.

Ador says he was part of an 11-man PAOCTF team, consisting of eight enlisted personnel and three civilian assets. He claims he started out with the group initially as a peddler of smuggled "Ma Ling" canned meat and cell phones. Later, he was assigned to case the homes and study the routines of intended kidnap victims. He says he participated in the 1998 abduction of Edgar Bertain, the operator of the closed-circuit camera that recorded Joseph Estrada playing in a casino with his friend Along Ang. He claims that he saw the ex-president's son, Jude Estrada, personally hand over money to Superintendent Aquino as payment for the liquidation of Bertain.

The same team led by Aquino, he says, was responsible for the abduction of Dacer and his driver last year. The victims were brought to Cavite and killed there.

More recently, he says, he did surveillance work for the kidnapping of Mary Grace Cheng inside the UP campus in Quezon City. Cheng, he

claims, was among the 15 persons targeted by the group for kidnapping or assassination from June to August this year. Lacson himself met them in a house in Marikina on the night of May 11, 2001 or just a few days before the election, to give them this important assignment. The whole idea was to create political instability and to show the government to be helpless, while raising funds at the same time.

Three of the 15 planned abductions were subsequently carried out: those of Mary Grace Cheng, a businesswoman surnamed "Gertrudes," and another Chinese person by the name of Yeo. Cheng was freed after her family paid ransom, but there are still no police reports on Yeo or Gertrudes.

Is Ador for real? Why has he suddenly surfaced to tell this fantastic tale? Survival, he says. Their team has been disbanded. Only three members are still alive; the rest have all been eliminated, including "Mang Ben," the man who brought him into the group and mentored him. Their boss, who is now a senator, he surmises, wants to begin his term with a clean slate.

As ISAFP chief, Corpus has all the reason in the world to be interested. Ador's revelations have national security implications. Corpus says he is willing to quit his job if Ador turns out to be a fake and if it is shown that he has knowingly or inadvertently allowed his office to be used as a center for a demolition job against a senator of the Republic. It's his credibility that is at stake now against Lacson's.

The problem with deliberately telling a lie, says the philosopher Nietzsche, is that you must have the imagination to tell 20 others to make good the first. Under normal circumstances, it is less burdensome mentally for a person to tell the truth than to weave a narrative of lies. One can however have a complex family life and learn to lie instinctively. "So he lies in complete innocence."

Which one is Ador?

Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph

A genuinely pro-poor party

EVERY new administration assumes office making promises of a better life for Filipinos. More often than not, these promises have fallen flat. "Better life" has hit bumps and crevasses of cost burdens and despair that have transformed it into a "difficult life" for many.

In 1999, more than 13 million families in the Philippines did not earn enough to live a decent life. What does this mean? It means they could not afford a doctor even if they were desperately ill. They could not eat three meals

a day, even if this was just dried fish and rice. They lived in cardboard huts under flyovers or along esteros because it saved them from spending for transportation to their workplace or to school. They were seeing more of their children dying, because malnutrition offers no defense against even the slightest infection.

More worrisome is that their number is multiplying. Research made by the Center for Democratic Development, Concerns estimates that a family of six in Metro Manila needs about P14,800 a month and in the province about P11,300 a month to afford the basic requirements for a decent life. In the 1999 Annual Poverty Indicators Survey of the National Census and Statistics Office, out of the 14.75 million families surveyed, only one percent was living above this threshold. Although the total income of these families went up by 6.7 percent, average expenditures rose faster than incomes. This seems to be a race that the lower income earners of our population are losing.

The government has launched program after program to bring social services to the "poorest of the poor" but expenditures on basic social services remain low at about 2 percent of the gross national product. Moreover, these programs have done little to improve poor people's prospects to get jobs and earn better incomes.

Indeed, the poor are a cause for deep concern. Yes, but they are also a powerful and dangerous force. They can bring a country down on its knees. Their most dramatic and terrifying face, was the bloody May 1 encounter at Mendiola when hordes of urban poor surged toward the Palace gates.

It was a security crisis that demonstrated a gnawing problem that had polarized the elite versus the poor. The ousted president, Joseph Estrada, and his followers had stoked the frustrations and desperation of the poor, and used it to heat up a so-called class struggle that branded government as the elite that they must fight against.

The poor have been used much too conveniently. They have become pawns for politicians who want to be elected and remain in office, despite their lack of qualifications. Insurgents and pseudo-ideologues dangle promises of justice and equality to entice the poor and the disenfranchised to swell their ranks and expand their base of power. The poor's desperation (*kapit sa patalim*) makes them vulnerable to the lure of criminality and willing cohorts of corrupt government functionaries.

The poor simply want a better life, one that befits human beings. The leaders of our country have the power and the resources to bring this about. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo can project herself as a true champion of the poor and tap the muscle of a formidable organization behind her either by:

- Reengineering whichever political party she belongs to now into a party whose chief advocacy is the poor.
- Organizing a new political party that will champion the cause of the poor.

It is important that such a party not be perceived or projected to be "patronizing," or capable only of taking palliative measures that are useful only for PR purposes. We have seen enough of:

- Photo-ops meant to show "being one with them" such as Estrada's practice of eating with the poor with his bare hands.
- Releasing the CDF funds to congressmen ostensibly for them to buy rice for the poor, only to know later on that part of that money lined the pockets of the non-poor through kickbacks.
- Handing out of certificates of land titles to a few poor families.

Instead, the party should position itself as a movement that will effectively address the need for jobs and incomes for the marginalized sectors of society through policies and programs that will expand employment opportunities by way of incentives given to businesses that create more jobs, instead of incentives simply focused on enticing foreign investors to come in. The President should also show that she is capable of taking up the cudgels for poor farmers through such controversial measures as raising the price of *palay*, even if this would antagonize other sectors. With the bulk of the Philippine population being 16 years and younger, the President may find it helpful to launch programs that would prepare the indigent youth sector for immediate employment such as through training in information technology and other technical skills.

Any strategy to help the poor will involve tradeoffs, mostly painful. Providing incentives to private businesses for employment generation by way, for example, of tax credits for additional employment opportunity provided, will cut into government revenues. So will funds spent for training and equipment. Increasing farm gate prices will pose a burden to consumers who will not be happy with the administration for further increasing the cost of living.

It could mean being popular in one sector but being vilified by others. It could mean antagonizing some political backers and financiers. On the other hand, paying lip service to the idea of uplifting the poor may also eventually lead to political disaster.

It is time to adopt creative solutions to the poverty problem. Clearly, strategies adopted by past administrations have not worked, for the poor have not only remained with us, they have multiplied immensely. Maybe it is time to give the poor a political voice so that they themselves can work at solving their own problems. Maybe President Macapagal can be the "conductor" who will synchronize this voice and give it enlightenment and direction through a new, genuinely pro-poor political party.

Salvador M. Enriquez Jr. is chair of the Center for Democratic Development Concerns.

THEY SAID

Social responsibility

"During this time of volatility, we want to remind them of their social responsibility."
—Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura asking bank officials to help arrest the peso's fall

Denial stage

"The UBS (Union Bank of Switzerland) people have not gone beyond the denial stage. But there are now facts and circumstances that blast this denial to smithereens."
—Former Solicitor General Francisco Chavez on the response of Swiss officials to new developments on Irene Marcos-Araneta's alleged attempt to launder billions of dollars in ill-gotten wealth

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TALK OF THE TOWN

JOHN NERY, Editor

Please send feedback to opinion@inquirer.com.ph

What is civil society, and who speaks for it?

"One moment, it was a women's group representative. The next moment a labor leader. Then, a priest, and after the priest, an entertainer. It was not clear, but there was a method to the madness"



ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ / PAGE DESIGN: ERNIE SAMBO

THE EUPHORIA over the peaceful transfer of power last January quickly gave way to confusion over the exact nature of the citizens' groups behind People Power II. Did any motley group of protestors now have the right to call themselves members of the same civil society that deposed President Joseph Estrada? In February, groups for-

merly allied with GMA threatened the Supreme Court with the specter of yet another round of people power—in case the high tribunal failed to rule favorably on his ouster. Was this a legitimate use of people power? By the time of Erap's arrest, pro-Erap forces had coalesced to stage what they called Edsa 3; after all, weren't they members of civil society too?

An act of the imagination

BY JIM PAREDES

THE TERM "civil society," so much bandied about these days, elicits different reactions from different people. For some, it is Philippine society's last remaining card for reform. For others, it is their newest "pet peeve"—this self-anointed force that sanctimoniously invokes the majority to get its way. What, exactly, is it?

First, let's describe what it is not. The way I understand Nikkii Perlas' treatise on the subject, civil society is composed of people who are not in government and are not resigned to the dictates of market forces (that is, they don't believe that market forces alone shape their lives and society's as well). They are people from all sectors—your officemates, your neighborhood activist, members of non-government organizations, people's organizations, students, housewives, faceless peasants, farmers, businessmen, the urban poor, practically everyone who sees the general public as the primary client that government and the market should serve. They are reform-oriented and their advocacy is good governance toward the continuing goal of a society made increasingly more humane.

Okay. But if government has political power and the market can press economic buttons that affect the lives of people, where lies civil society's power?

In late 1985, I could tell that the Marcos regime was effectively over when people were re-

sponding to jokes entertainers were making about it. I knew it was only a matter of time. It was clear by the way people were reacting to songs that derided the Marcoses, and the anthems of freedom that people were humming to, that a new cultural order had set in. Civil society, for the first time in the Philippines' recent history, felt its own power. And it was in the sphere of the cultural.

Because the cultural tectonic plate had moved, I thought the rest (political, economic, and so on) would soon align with the new wave of freedom that civil society had set in motion. And to some extent, they did.

More recently, it was the impeachment trial on TV that sparked civil society's widespread disgust with Erap. By the sheer number of text messages, e-mail, and mass actions, the not-so-subtle pressure directed toward members of Erap's cabinet and the grand culmination during Edsa 2, people once again asserted their power.

But who leads civil society? A difficult question, but since I am tasked to give an answer, allow me to be a bit reckless. The answer is—anyone, or any group of people who can capture its imagination at any given moment.

During the days and nights of Edsa 2 at the Shrine, politicians deferred meekly to the "unelected" leaders who were manning the stage for their turn to speak. That's because they probably realized that

the masses of people present were being led by leaders not in the traditional political sense. The leaders were anyone who embodied and articulated what the people wanted. They were those who caught on to "the wave." One moment, it could be a women's group representative. The next moment a labor leader. Then, a priest, and after the priest, an entertainer.

It was not clear to the outsider but there was a method to the madness. Because if you were the "wrong" leader, you were either booed or ignored. It was as if the teeming masses of people were giving their permission to anyone who could express what they felt. And whoever could do that was a "leader."

In less turbulent times, the process by which civil society chooses leaders is not as ad hoc and as "dangerous" as I described above. But the dynamic is the same. Those who catch "the wave" or the cultural zeitgeist, those who stand out and can capture the imagination of a large segment of society and dare it to go where it has never been, are its leaders. These are people who can feel the nation's cultural pulse and who can present new possibilities for the better.

One might even say then that, to a large extent, civil society is where all the good leaders are—that is, before they go into politics.

Mr. Paredes is one-third of the famous Apo Hiking Society.

No longer on the margins

BY REP. FLORENCIO "BUTCH" ABAD
Representative, Lone District of Batanes

CIVIL society is the range of people's organizations, non-government organizations, churches, socio-civic organizations and other interest groups which participate in the national debate. These groups represent the various points-of-view in certain issues of national and local importance. They operate within the public sphere but are separate from the formal state structures. This is to say that, although they are not part of the formal decision-making structures, they can make their inputs because of their sheer number and organization. This was amply demonstrated in the protest movements which led to the downfall of two presidents. While it is true that not everyone belongs to these groups operating in civil society, still and all the work that they do affects each one.

It used to be that the national debate was always centered in the institutions that the state created to ensure the free flow of opinions and ideas. Thus the executive and, more importantly, the legislative branches of government became the arena for opposing views regarding the direction and conduct of national affairs. In such a setting, political parties were the primary articulators of the various sides of the issues. This role was assigned to them because it was thought that they were organized among the various groups or classes which subscribed to a particular political analysis and program. However, such a set-up was limited

because it could not account for the other views. The presence of bigger political interests in these parties dictated their party stance. As such, some groups, particularly those from the basic sectors, simply could not be accommodated because they ran counter to the interests of the more powerful interests of the party. The resulting alienation from the decision-making process created another area of debate, albeit on the margins of power.

Civil society in the Philippines for the most part operates on the margins of power because of its inherent bias for the marginalized sectors of society. It works to amplify the democratic space so that those alienated by the structural flaws of political decision-making are given better access to it. This minimizes the social tensions, as they are able to provide inputs to the debate. However, much as civil society tries to work among these sectors to achieve this end, the power structures do not yield the perks of their station so readily. This has given rise to People Power I and II, which were led by civil society mobilizing the masses of our people to address an untenable situation.

Unfortunately for us, we are still in a situation where the prevailing political culture is still receptive to the structures that breed an elitist brand of politics. While civil society has focused its efforts in trying to encourage greater participation of the citizenry in the national debate, there seems to be

a predisposition to go through time-tested methods to achieve some measure of participation.

However, there is now belated appreciation of the power of civil society and its ability to set the agenda for change. Recognizing the role that civil society has played in recent events, our national leaders are more receptive to the idea that civil society's role in the national debate should be given greater prominence and weight. There is a realization that, if there is to be political stability, then those hitherto operating on the margins of the decision-making process should be consulted so that they become integral parts of the process.

In the aftermath of People Power II, civil society and the formal political structures are now more open to cooperation and consultation with each other. Some of the more prominent leaders of civil society were even encouraged by their constituency to enter unfamiliar territory and cross over to government, to ensure that its programs prioritize the marginalized sectors. In so doing, they have ceased to remain members of civil society.

Given a more open access to the formal political structures, the leaders, consensus-builders and process facilitators within civil society might just be encouraged to participate fully, thus ensuring that the interests of the people on the margins of power become important inputs in the decision-making.

The drama of democratization

BY LEONARD DE VERA
Spokesperson, Equal Justice for All Movement

SEVERAL definitions have been given for civil society.

It is a shorthand term for the collection of intermediary groups and voluntary organizations that occupy the space between the family and the state (Nancy Bermeo, "Good Government and Law," 1997). It is broad and loose groupings of people involved in changing elements of the social order, often through mass direct action outside established political institutions and legal procedures (John Dearlove and Peter Saunders, "Introduction to British Politics," 1995).

Civil society today derives from two sources: First, the generalized disenchantment with "the state" as an agent of social and material change. When the state is discredited, and is perceived to be itself an obstacle to progressive reforms, the people, through civil society, take a direct hand in effecting the needed changes.

Second, the revolution in communications. Television now allows us to witness the drama of

democratization as it unfolds. Viewing thousands of unarmed demonstrations confronting tanks and soldiers in struggles for democracy throughout the world, we see civil society as we have never seen it before: wholly humanized and unambiguously heroic (Bermeo).

Civil society is composed of different aggregations of several classes of society, including but not limited to the poor, the middle class, the rich, those representing local as well as national interests, religious groups, the academic community, the employed, the jobless, the businessmen, and all those individuals and organizations who are not working for the government. Of course, there are many officials and employees in the government service, national and local, who may be sympathetic and actively supporting the anti-government or anti-establishment civil society movements. In this sense, they may be considered as members of civil society in principle and persuasion.

Who, then, can speak for civil society? In the

absence of a designated spokesperson, the different groups comprising civil society may designate their own groups' spokespersons. It may well be that the interests of these different groups may conflict with one another. For example, the jobless group may conflict with the business sector, or the left-of-center group may conflict with the right-of-center. But therein lies the beauty and strength of civil society. Out of the diverse interests of the different groups will emerge a united sentiment that may focus on the main critical issue confronting them all.

Last January, for example, the main questions were: Should the President be thrown out of office? And should the impeachment trial continue? These main issues led to several peripheral issues. But once a responsive chord, running common in the objectives of civil society, was struck, a formidable force was formed, creating a momentum of unstoppable power.

Mr. de Vera is also a member of the private prosecution panel in the Erap plunder cases.

Talking points

AT some point in their discussion, all three respondents—major players of varying importance in the Edsa 2 drama—define civil society by listing the groups that make it up. This is a sure sign that Mr. Paredes, Rep. Abad, and Mr. De Vera are all venturing into incompletely charted waters. "Civil society," as a term, is new enough as to require an inventory of elements; the three writers all offer definitions in the classic

genus-and-species sense (see, for example, Paredes' throwaway last line), but precisely because the term is new, they all use description in aid of definition.

All three also define the phrase in terms of what it is not. A new coinage may be helpfully explained by defining what it isn't, but in this case it is not the novelty of "civil society" that prompts all three to do so. Like defining "Third World"

or "fourth estate," defining "civil society" is an exercise in drawing the opposition. That is, what it is not is part of the definition of what it is. Journalism, the fourth estate, is not the nobility, the clergy, or the parliament (at one time the three "estates" in society with lawmaking powers); rather, it is a new force in society with comparable powers. By the same token, civil society is not government, and it is not

business, but it has comparable responsibilities.

This may partly explain why Philippine politics in the immediate post-Estrada era is still struggling with the role that civil society groups ought to play. This difficulty becomes clear in De Vera's discussion, when he says that the strength of civil society derives in part from "the generalized disenchantment" with the state as an

agent of change. Abad's argument echoes this, when he refers to members of civil society as "those alienated by the structural flaws of political decision-making."

For those of us who savored the subversive entertainment of the Apo Hiking Society in the last Marcos years (their concerts, in particular), Paredes' reflection on the political significance of anti-Marcos jokes is like coming full circle—it rings true,

precisely because it is the view from the other side, the view from the stage, but heard for the first time after all these years.

He also uses plate tectonics as a controlling metaphor. It is an imaginative choice, because it conveys the idea that major social dimensions are both separate but connected, and the idea that major upheavals and political earthquakes happen in their own time.—J. Nery

The WORLD

Luzerne B. Gueco, Editor

US rape suspect to be grilled by prosecutors

OKINAWA CITY, Japan—Police yesterday turned the American airman accused of raping a Japanese woman on the island of Okinawa over to prosecutors, one day after the US military handed him to police.

The arrest Friday of Air Force Staff Sgt. Timothy Woodland ended a weeklong stalemate that threatened to cast a shadow over one of Washington's key security alliances and highlighted frustration with crimes by US servicemen on this southern Japanese island.

Woodland, whose hometown has not been released, was arrested on suspicion of forcing an Okinawan woman up against a car and raping her in the early morning hours of June 29 in a parking lot outside a row of bars. The arrest came four days after police obtained a warrant.

The US government had been reluctant to hand Woodland over because of concerns about his legal defense under Japan's judicial system, which convicts more than 95 percent of suspects whose cases go to trial. Woodland has denied the allegations.

As is customary in Japan, no defense attorney had been present during the pre-arrest questioning of Woodland. An interpreter has been provided at Woodland's interrogation sessions.

Woodland was transferred to the prosecutor's office in the prefectural (state) capital of Naha on

Saturday morning, said office official Choko Zukeran. Zukeran would provide no other details.

Earlier an Okinawan police official said on condition of anonymity that Woodland would likely be questioned before prosecutors seek permission later Saturday from a local court to keep him in custody, a legal requirement. Indictment was unlikely Saturday and could take days.

Washington's delay in giving approval for Woodland's handover renewed criticism of the special legal status granted to the 26,000 troops stationed here and has led to calls for an end to it.

People on this small island 1,600 km southwest of Tokyo have long bristled at hosting most of the 50,000 US troops posted in Japan. And they are outraged over repeated sexual attacks involving US soldiers, despite promises from Washington to ratchet up discipline.

There were huge demonstrations here in 1995 following the rape of a 12-year-old schoolgirl by three US servicemen. That assault prompted Washington to agree to consider handing over suspects before charges are filed, a move that allowed for Woodland's transfer to Japanese authorities.

Under an agreement governing the US military presence in Japan, local officials generally need US approval to take custody of military suspects. AP

Chandra Levy had 'big news' never divulged

WASHINGTON—The day before she was last seen, Chandra Levy called her aunt and left a message saying she had "some big news" to share.

Linda Zamsky says she still has no idea what her niece meant by the message left April 29, but that there's no reason to believe it was something ominous.

"She was upbeat and full of life. There was absolutely no indication that she was upset," Zamsky said.

Zamsky described the message in a statement issued Friday that was devoted mainly to providing details about the affair Zamsky says Levy told her she had with Rep. Gary Condit. Levy is from Modesto, California, which Condit represents.

Condit, 53 and married, has called Levy, a former intern at the US Bureau of Prisons, a "good friend." His aides have denied a romantic relationship.

Meanwhile, ABC News reported Friday that police want to obtain Condit's cellular telephone records to try to learn more about the congressman's contact with the intern.

Zamsky, who lives on Maryland's Eastern Shore, a couple of hours northeast of Washington, said she decided to publicize what Levy confided to her because Condit has not been forthcoming about the relationship.

"We believe that Rep. Condit's lack of candor is hindering efforts to find Chandra," Zamsky said. Her statement was released by the public relations firm that has been hired by Billy Martin, the Levy family attorney in Washington. AP



TWO Okinawan kids take part in a protest against US presence in Okinawa and Japan and the rape of a woman in Okinawa July 6, joining more than 200 Okinawans who held a rally in front of a gate of the US Kadena Air Force Base.

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Ministry of Education
School Placement & Scholarships Branch
Scholarships Section
1 North Buona Vista Drive
Singapore 138675

Requests for application forms by post from the Singapore Embassy must be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope (at least 16cm x 23cm). The envelopes should be marked 'ASEAN SECONDARY THREE SCHOLARSHIPS' at the top left hand corner.

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Completed application forms, together with relevant supporting documents must reach either the Singapore Embassy in Manila or the Singapore Ministry of Education at the respective addresses given above by 1st August 2001.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to sit for a selection test in September and attend an interview in October 2001. Successful candidates will arrive in Singapore in October/November to attend a bridging course in English Language and Mathematics before joining Singapore schools in January 2002.

For more information on the scholarship and education in Singapore, please visit our website at: www1.moe.edu.sg/ASEAN

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Bush wants to cut US aid on global warming

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush, after faulting the Kyoto climate treaty for excluding developing nations from its requirements, wants to cut US aid that helps Third World countries combat global warming.

While asking Congress for nearly \$4 billion to address climate change, roughly the same as last year, Bush proposes reducing assistance to other countries by \$41 million from last year's \$165 million. He calls for shifting more responsibility to private industry.

The figures are contained in a June 29 report that Bush sent to House Speaker Dennis Hastert and Sen. Robert C. Byrd, the Senate president pro tempore.

The White House declined to discuss the report on the record Friday.

One senior administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity, disputed that the numbers reflected a cut and said they were part of a previously planned reduction for the final

year of a five-year international aid plan.

The 52-page report provides the first public look at an inventory of Bush spending on climate change.

The issue, along with Bush's related energy policies, has become increasingly prominent with Bush's reversal of a campaign pledge to regulate carbon dioxide pollution and his rejection of the 1997 Kyoto accord that has been broadly supported but not ratified by any US allies in Europe.

Much of Bush's climate change budget amounts to shifting about \$400 million toward areas such as burning coal more cleanly, insulating homes to use less energy and giving tax credits for electricity produced from wind and less-polluting agricultural waste.

Europeans have been unhappy with Bush's condemnation of the Kyoto agreement, which commits industrialized countries to reduce emissions such as carbon dioxide that are believed to trap heat in the atmosphere, warming it like a greenhouse.

Just before heading to Europe, Bush told reporters on June 11 that the United States should help reduce heat-trapping pollution from Third World countries. "We want to work cooperatively with these countries in their efforts to reduce greenhouse emissions and maintain economic growth," he said.

However, his budget would reduce money for programs intended to assist countries like Brazil, India, Indonesia,

Mexico, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, South Africa and Ukraine increase their industrial development with only minimal contributions to global warming.

In his report, Bush says several US-backed projects are ready to be privatized. Those include projects creating more efficient lighting in Mexico and wind power in India, using agricultural waste as fuel for electric power and heat in Brazil and expanded coal-bed methane recovery in China. AP

Peru PM says Fujimori keeps secret accounts

LIMA—Authorities are gathering evidence that former President Alberto Fujimori misused charitable donations from Japan and that his brother-in-law made secret bank deposits on his behalf, Peru's prime minister said.

Prime Minister Javier Perez de Cuellar told reporters Friday that investigators "practically have proof" that Victor Arimori, Peru's former ambassador to Japan and husband to Fujimori's sister Rosa, had committed "grave irregularities" to "hide bank deposits for his brother-in-law, Fujimori."

He also referred to "misuse" of "voluntary donations that came from the Japanese since the start of Fujimori's government."

He did not give details on the evidence gathered.

On Wednesday, Fujimori's ex-wife Susana Higuchi, now a congresswoman, alleged that the ex-president skimmed \$12.5 million in donations from Japanese supporters that were destined for a Peruvian children's foundation in 1990.

"We are absolutely sure that Fujimori has accounts abroad," special government anti-corruption investigator Jose Ugaz said in an interview with CPN radio Friday.

He said investigators believe the accounts were mainly in Japan but that repeated requests to Japanese officials to lift banking secrecy had been unsuccessful.

Fujimori fled to Japan, his parent's homeland, and was ousted by Congress in November amid mounting corruption scandals surrounding his ex-intelligence chief Vladimiro Montesinos, who was captured June 23 in Venezuela.

He was granted Japanese citizenship, putting him out of the immediate reach of Peruvian authorities. There is no extradition treaty between Peru and Japan and officials in Tokyo have indicated they will not force Fujimori's return.

Perez de Cuellar said Peru might seek international arbitration to show that Fujimori's Peruvian nationality outweighs any claim to Japanese citizenship.

Fujimori faces charges of dereliction of duty and abandonment of office in Peru and is under investigation for allegedly signing off on millions of dollars in shady arms deals and having links to a paramilitary death squad.

He has repeatedly said he holds no foreign bank accounts and has denied any criminal wrongdoing.

An anti-corruption judge recently asked Interpol to carry out an international warrant to arrest Arimori, who also is in Japan. AP



RESCUE workers tend to injured spectators after a violent storm brought a tree crashing down onto an open-air concert in eastern France July 6. The spectators had huddled under a huge plane tree in the Chateau Pourtales Park in the suburbs of Strasbourg after the freak storm stopped the concert. REUTERS

Tree crashes in storm, kills 10 concertgoers

STRASBOURG, France—A storm rent a huge plane tree crashing onto spectators at an outdoor Yiddish music concert, killing at least 10 people and injuring 85 others, 18 of them seriously, police said early yesterday.

The victims were attending a Friday evening concert at a chateau in the suburbs of this picturesque city when high winds suddenly ripped through the area.

"A huge tree fell. And then everything just fell," said Astrid Ruff, a singer at the concert. She was interviewed on LCI television.

Rescuers cut through leafy, soaking branches to get to the injured. Dazed concertgoers wandered aimlessly in the pouring rain, looking for friends, as firefighters hampered by the wet conditions pulled victims out on stretchers.

Six men and four women, all around the age of 18, were killed.

Seven children were among the injured. Most of those injured suffered neck and head trauma, according to police for the Bas-Rhin region.

The organizers had apparently gotten the go-ahead for the concert despite predictions of bad weather. Philippe Marland, the top government official in the area, said it had been impossible to foresee the tragedy.

But Ruff said the decision to go ahead was "imprudence. We can say that now." AP

Prince Charles hints he may marry Camilla

LONDON—The heir to Britain's throne, Prince Charles, gave his strongest hint yet in an interview with the Daily Mail yesterday that he may marry his long-time companion Camilla Parker Bowles.

Asked by the tabloid whether he planned to marry again, the prince replied: "Who knows what the good Lord has planned? You can't be certain about anything."

Although he did not mention divorcee Parker Bowles by name, the statement was seen by royal watchers as the boldest declaration yet about her since the death of

his former wife Princess Diana.

Diana died in a car crash in Paris in the early hours of Aug. 31 1997.

Last week, the prince and Parker Bowles enjoyed their first public kiss at a charity reception hosted by his companion.

Charles' long-standing relationship with Camilla destroyed the prince's marriage to Diana and provoked wide animosity among the Diana-loving public.

In the in-depth interview Charles also talked about Diana, who would have celebrated her

40th birthday last Sunday, saying he hopes she can "rest in peace."

Making an appeal for his sons, princes William and Harry, to be left alone, he said: "The truth is that the children mind about the way in which she is dealt with."

"It must be quite difficult for them, I think. I wish people could just let her soul rest in peace without all these constant reminders."

On the subject of the two teenagers, he added: "They are terrific, and I am very lucky to have them." AFP



BOWLES

\$62,000 for London wining

LONDON—Six diners who went for a meal in London spent more than 44,000 pounds (\$62,000) on some of the world's finest vintage wines, one of the restaurant's owners revealed yesterday.

The group amassed the huge bill, which included a tip, whilst dining at the French restaurant Petrus, part-owned by celebrity British chef Gordon Ramsay.

They ordered three bottles of Chateau Petrus claret—a 1945 costing 11,600 pounds, a 1946 at 9,400 pounds and a 1947 at 12,300 pounds.

The diners also drank a 1900 Chateau d'Yquem, a dessert wine, which cost 9,200 pounds, during their meal on Thursday.

In addition they ordered six glasses of champagne, 10 bottles of water and two bottles of Kronenbourg 1664 lager.

They left a four-figure tip after staff waived the 400-pound food bill. The final bill came to 44,007 pounds.

Chris Hutcheson, who owns the restaurant with Ramsay and another partner, said: "We're used to 20,000-pound bills but we knew this would happen one day."

"We have perhaps the finest wine cellar in London and as far as Petrus is concerned maybe in Europe. People come specifically for that."

"They are extremely rare wines and not something you would see on anybody's wine list."

Hutcheson added that it would be a challenge to try to replace the wines. AFP

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FBI veteran pleads guilty to spying for Moscow

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WASHINGTON—Former FBI agent Robert Hanssen pleaded guilty Friday to charges of spying for Moscow and will spend the rest of his life in prison under a plea bargain that spares him the death penalty.

In return, Hanssen, who pleaded guilty to 15 counts of espionage and conspiracy, will fully cooperate with investigators probing his spying career, his lawyer Plato Cacheris said.

The 57-year-old senior FBI counterintelligence officer was charged with spying for Moscow from 1985 in return from some \$1.4 million paid in cash and diamonds.

Cacheris revealed, however, that Hanssen had begun spying even earlier—in 1979 and stopped twice, before resuming espionage for Russia in 1999.

He said his client "very much wanted to make amends. That's a big reason for this disposition today and he wanted to tell his former agency what he had done and why he had done it."

Deputy US attorney general Larry Thompson said the government was reluctant to forgo the death penalty. But the plea bargain was the only way to "fully access the magnitude and scope of Hanssen's espionage activities," he said.

The plea agreement will also avert a jury trial scheduled for October, to the relief of US spy agencies troubled by a public airing of secret information. Instead Hanssen will be sentenced in January



HANSEN

to a life term in prison.

Cacheris, who represented CIA veteran Aldrich Ames who was jailed for life in 1994 after a lengthy spying career for Moscow, said that the government will learn "invaluable" information from Hanssen.

"They are going to learn things that they did not know (including that) his activities commenced in 1979 to 81 and that period the government new nothing about," he said.

Hanssen had virtually unlimited access to state secrets and is believed to have seriously compromised US national security. He also gave the KGB information on three Russian double agents, two of whom were executed.

Cacheris said that the damage done by Hanssen was "about the same as Aldrich Ames," who spied for the KGB for nearly a decade, passing thousands of classified documents to Moscow.

Hanssen was arrested Feb. 18 in a sting operation after dropping a batch of documents at a location agreed by his Russian handlers in a public park in Virginia. Cacheris said the father-of-six had a premonition he would be found out that day.

Following the arrest, Washington ordered home 50 Russian diplomats, four of them linked to Hanssen, and Moscow replied with a tit-for-tat expulsion order in the worst post-Cold War spying spat with Russia.

AFP

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Scholar's China spy trial set next week

WASHINGTON—China will put American scholar Li Shaomin on trial for spying next week, the United States said Friday, and blamed a mistranslation for its previous announcement that the trial had already begun.

Citing "direct" information from the Chinese government, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Li, arrested during a visit to China in February, would appear in Beijing's First Intermediate Court on Saturday, July 14.

Boucher said that an American consular official and an interpreter would be allowed to attend his trial.

But he had no clear details of when another Chinese-American scholar, Gao Zhan would be tried, although he assumed that her court appearance would begin "in the same time frame."

Gao, who is accused of spying for Taiwan, may not benefit from consular access as she is a US permanent resident, while Li is an American citizen.

The State Department blamed a mistranslation for Thursday's announcement that the trials had already begun which was later contradicted by Chinese prosecutors.

The confusion dampened hopes that the two scholars, who have been held since February, would soon be expelled from China.

The families of both Li and Gao have strongly denied any wrongdoing on their behalf.

Li, 45, has been in detention since Feb. 25 when he was picked up by police in the southern city of Shenzhen, just north of Hong Kong, and detained without explanation.

AFP

Woman, 61, delivers baby boy

SAN FRANCISCO—A 61-year-old woman gave birth to a healthy baby boy in a San Francisco hospital Friday, becoming one of the oldest new mothers in the world.

"The baby and the mother are just fine. It is all absolutely peachy," said Glenda Carroll, a spokesperson for Kaiser Permanente Medical Center.

Carroll said the parents had asked her not to reveal any further information and wished to avoid publicity.

"All I can say is there was a birth, the baby is fine, it is normal in all ways," Carroll said. She added that the woman was believed to be the oldest ever to give birth at the hospital.

Medical experts say it is extremely rare for women over 50 to deliver babies. In the last decade, at least two 63-year-old women have given birth, one in Italy and one in Southern California. Both cases sparked lively debate over the ethics of post-menopausal mothers.

Reuters

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Across the **NATION**

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

Slums blamed for Baguio floodingBY VINCENT CABREZA
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—New squatter settlements have triggered unusual floods and landslides that have killed 29 people in this mountain city at the height of typhoon "Feria," government geologists said Friday.

These unregulated settlements apparently blocked natural waterways that eroded heavily populated mountainsides and flooded the city's central business district.

The killer landslides aside, it was the flood that submerged downtown Baguio that actually froze the city's business on its tracks on Wednesday.

Joseph Rios, chief meteorologist of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration in Baguio, said Feria actually broke record rainfall measurements in the city when it generated 1,085.8 millimeters of rain Wednesday.

The highest rainfall record surpassed by Feria's rains was typhoon "Tiang's" 994.6 mm in 1998.

"In fact, the rainfall this week exceeded our anticipated target of 838.4 mm for 26 days in July," Rios said.

"Water seeks its own level. Should you be blocking the (exit routes) of surface run-off water (that is collected from Feria's rainfall), there will be a great buildup (that triggers slides as well as flooding)," said Neoman dela Cruz, regional director of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau.

Squatter settlements are rarely reached by Baguio's public services. No real drainage systems service squatter colonies around Dominican Hill, Quirino Hill and Quezon Hill, heavily populated villages overlooking downtown Baguio where surface run-off water normally settles during storms.

"Politicians normally avoid addressing squatter issues, even to the point of neglecting them. General services should reach them but oftentimes the city is unable to include their areas. The basic issue is whether providing them general services means legitimizing their presence there," a city official admitted.

This policy question contributed to a general failure of the city's drainage systems.

"Ang resulta n'yan, there is indiscriminate discharge of waste. Plastics, for example, are the common trash materials that clog waterways. The instability of structures also means (weak) slopes (that hold) these mountain communities," Dela Cruz said.

"(Baguio's) rock formations are mostly volcanic which means they are not so porous. It couldn't hold much water, compared to sedimentary rocks (in other areas south of Baguio). There are also very porous and very permeable rock formations here. Limestone (which characterizes most of the outlying mountain districts here) is very porous but very permeable (to water)... But in critical sections, the rocks are not so porous," he said.

"A cup filled with sand and gravel absorbs more water compared to a cup filled with limestone. That's the best way to explain the way Baguio absorbs water," he said in Filipino.

Dela Cruz also advised city engineers and architects to look back to the geological conditions of the city following the July 16, 1990 earthquake.

He said geological lineaments (ground fractures) opened by the 1990 earthquake could have shifted the



RECORD rainfall and flood in Baguio surprise residents and visitors.

normal pathways of water, outdating old engineering records that map out water flow in Baguio.

"Squatter or not, the only remedy is for the city to invest in good drainage. Even if there is (a) squatter colony there, fix the drainage. That is basic. Everyone is safe. Politics should not be a deterrent anymore. This is about lives and property," he said.

Dela Cruz said the city should also review an engineering project that supposedly de-clogged the City Camp Lagoon subdivision, a perennial flood site in Baguio.

Flood spanning an estimated two hectares submerged three-story high houses there on Wednesday, displacing about 300 families.

Floodwaters there have slowly subsided even as

storm Feria's rains dissipated.

Dela Cruz said geologists were puzzled by the City Camp flood because a manmade tunnel cutting through Barangay Crystal Cave virtually neutralized the flooding there in the last eight years.

That project was aggressively blocked by Crystal Cave residents in 1994. The residents feared that the tunneling could open new holes and bury entire houses. A sinkhole had already swallowed a house there in 1993.

"If there is a recommendation I would give the new city officials, it is to fix the squatters' drainage and to fix that tunnel. It maybe possible (that) the city was unable to completely finish the Crystal Cave tunneling because of the opposition," Dela Cruz said.

Napocor tests coco fuel in power plants

DAVAO CITY—The National Power Corp. is testing coconut-based fuel in some of its power plants in a bid to reduce the state power firm's dependence on crude oil.

Jesus Alcorido, Napocor president, said an initial study conducted by the power firm showed that coconut oil (CNO) and coconut methyl ether (CME) can substitute for fuel oil and diesel in running oil-fired power plants.

Alcorido, however, said the Napocor would not shift to pure coconut-based fuel because it would require higher operating costs.

"However, despite the outcome of our study, we have agreed with the Department of Agriculture to proceed with the demonstration testing on the use of CNO and CME in selected power plants as a measure to establish more confidence on the use of these coco products in the power industry. This is preparatory to any future opportunity when petroleum products will be costlier than coco products," Alcorido said in a letter to the Mindanao Business Council.

The Napocor has already made a proposal to the agriculture department for the creation of an Inter-

Agency Task Force that will formulate methods to use coconut-based fuel.

Alcorido said this is to ensure "the success and smooth implementation of the demonstration testing."

Earlier, President Macapagal-Arroyo asked the Napocor and the agriculture department to devise a scheme which would help the dying coconut industry in Mindanao.

The President's order was prompted by a resolution submitted by the MBC during the Mindanao Business Conference in Butuan City in February.

"Cook up a scheme where (perhaps) up to 10 percent of fuel oil for Napocor plants will come from crude coco oil to help increase the buying price for local copra," Ms Macapagal said then.

For several months now, the price of copra steadily declined from its peak of P25 per kilo in the second quarter of 2000.

But even at its higher price level, the incidence of poverty among coconut farmers has not gone down.

About 70 percent of the country's coconut oil requirement come from Mindanao. Allan Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Release of 29 rebel 'sympathizers' sought

DAVAO CITY—Psychological and emotional disturbances are hounding political prisoners in Mati, Davao Oriental, a militant group here said.

The Task Force Detainees of the Philippines claimed that the sufferings of the prisoners are aggravated by torture in the hands of their captors.

Ma. Rita Melecio, TFDP head in Mindanao, said they sent an appeal to President Macapagal-Arroyo to release at least 29 political prisoners being held by the military without charges since last year.

Melecio also said the detainees have been suffering from different

illnesses, aggravated by the lack of medicine from the provincial hospital.

In separate letters to Davao Oriental Gov. Marlene Palma Gil and Presidential Assistant Jesus Dureza, the TFDP said while waiting for the President's action, the health problems of the prisoners should be given immediate attention as these could worsen.

The military said the 29 prisoners were held for allegedly helping rebels who ambushed Army soldiers last year in Davao Oriental.

Several soldiers died or were wounded in the ambush. Allan Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Guimaras vote count over; winners declared

ILOILO CITY—The provincial board of canvassers of Guimaras finally proclaimed on July 5 the winning candidates for the province's governor and vice governor.

Gov. Rahman Nava (LDP) won a second term after he defeated outgoing board member Gerry Yucon (Lakas-NUCD) by a margin of 12,976 votes. Nava got 31,796 votes and Yucon received 18,820 votes.

Nava's running mate Avelino Gonzaga, however, lost to Yucon's running mate, Edgardo Gabasa, in the vice gubernatorial race by a margin of less than 400 votes. Gonzaga got 21,661 votes while Gabasa got

21,978 votes.

The board also proclaimed Aurelio Tionado, Arthur Gadian and Rolando Gallego, all of the Lakas-NUCD, as board members representing the first district covering the towns of San Lorenzo and Buenavista.

The proclamation came after the Municipal Board of Canvassers resumed its canvassing in Buenavista town on July 3 upon orders of the Comelec first division.

On June 26, the poll body ordered the canvassing resumed after Buenavista mayoral candidate Samuel Gumarin (LDP) withdrew his May 24 petition, asking the

Comelec to annul the canvassing results in the town because the MBC's composition was illegal.

Gumarin's petition suspended the canvassing in Buenavista, the largest of the province's five towns with 20,481 registered voters.

As a result, the Comelec could not proclaim the province's governor, vice governor and three board members because the results in Buenavista may change the standing of the candidates.

The delay in the proclamation created a temporary vacuum of leadership in the provincial government after the Department of Interior and Local Gov-

ernment failed to designate an acting governor and an acting vice governor when the terms of outgoing officials ended on June 30.

The DILG, instead, issued Regional Legal Opinion No. 12, which provided that the top two board members, who were earlier proclaimed, should assume the positions of governor and vice governor pending the proclamation of the winners.

But board members David Gano and Allan Chavez, who got the highest and the second highest number of votes, refused to take over the posts. Nestor P. Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau

Lito O drops plan to kick Lakas out of PPCBY MALOU G. APALISOK
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Former Cebu Gov. and Promdi founder Emilio "Lito" Osmeña has abandoned his plan to expel the Lakas-NUCD from the People Power Coalition following the exodus of Promdi members to the major administration party.

Osmeña told the INQUIRER on Friday that his priority now is to "cooperate with the administration."

He said he just wanted to "maintain

the moral ascendancy" of local PPC candidates when he attacked the Lakas-NUCD and sought its expulsion from the coalition during the election period.

"Now that the elections are over, it's time to put aside partisan politics," he said.

Promdi is one of the four political parties that compose the coalition. The others are Reporma, Lakas-NUCD and Aktyon Demokratiko.

Less than a week before the May 14 elections, Osmeña sought the expulsion of the Lakas-NUCD from the PPC for

violating a coalition agreement that authorized the dominant party to choose local candidates in its area.

He cited the case of Cebu City wherein Promdi, as the dominant party, chose Tomas Osmeña, Lito's cousin, to be the coalition's mayoral candidate.

But former Tarlac Rep. Jose "Peping" Cojuangco, head of Kampi, endorsed the reelection bid of then Mayor Alvin Garcia, Tomas' rival. Kampi is an affiliate of the Lakas-NUCD and the original party of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Rep. Jose de Venecia said Lito could not expel the Lakas-NUCD because "it is the mainstream party in the coalition."

Promdi was rocked with dissension after the May 14 elections when talks began to surface that Promdi did not provide campaign funds to its local candidates.

Celestino Martinez Jr., Promdi vice gubernatorial candidate, accused Lito of jacking him in favor of John Gregory Osmeña, son of Lito's brother, Sen. John Osmeña.

Villagers risk life, limb to loot wreckageBY ELIZABETH MARCELO
PDI Central Luzon Desk

STA. CRUZ, Zambales—For P2,000, they're willing to risk life and limb, or freedom.

A local diver allegedly involved in the latest attempt to loot the Sta. Cruz shipwreck here was reported to have died of an acute respiratory problem caused by "bends."

Coast Guard authorities identified the diver as Renato Atijano of Barangay Riverside, a coastal village at Sta. Cruz.

"Bends" is the common term for decompression illness. When a diver makes a rapid ascent after being exposed to high underwater pressure, the sudden pressure changes can cause nitrogen in the bloodstream to come out of the solution, forming

bubbles in the blood and tissues and reducing or cutting off blood flow.

Zambales Coast Guard chief, Lt. Commander Pablo Gonzales, appealed to local fishermen and divers to stop attempts to get artifacts from the ancient wreckage.

"They're putting their lives on the line engaging in an illegal act," Gonzales said, adding that "bends, as shown by their (the divers') experience, can result in permanent disability and death."

A small dish from the wreckage fetches a price of about P2,000 in the local black market.

Gonzales said this is a sad testament to poverty, noting that the divers are "willing to risk life and limb for P2,000."

Atijano was reported to be among five boatloads of villagers who took advantage of the heavy rains and

sneaked into the wreck site Thursday about 3 a.m.

When a patrol team from the Coast Guard accosted the group, the divers panicked under water and their air hoses got entangled.

To break loose, some of the divers cut off their hoses and ascended rapidly.

Gonzales said when a diver holds his breath during a rapid ascent, the volume of air trapped in the lungs increases fast and may cause portions of the lungs to burst.

The abnormal air accumulation can lead to death.

Apparently, this was what happened to Atijano, the second known casualty since residents here and nearby Zambales towns started diving for relics from the shipwreck last May.

The first was Michael de los Reyes,

who died of pressure and lack of oxygen when his compressor lost fuel.
















The Coast Guard is securing the wreckage, located 110 feet below sea level between the islands of Hermosa Mayor and Hermosa Menor, six nautical miles west of Sta. Cruz.

The excavation of the relics was set to begin this week but typhoon Feria delayed the scheduled arrival Tuesday of the research vessel of the Far Eastern Foundation for Nautical Archaeology, the private group authorized by the National Museum to recover the artifacts.

Thousands of relics have been lost to looters during the mad rush for the sunken vessel's cargo of ancient ceramics and pottery before the May 14 elections this year.

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Visayas and Mindanao including Palawan will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms

		
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Cebu HI 31° Lo 24°	Tacolohan HI 32° Lo 28°	Gen. Santos HI 32° Lo 23°
		
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Compiled by: Armin Adina/PDI Research/7/8/01

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Suspect in ambush of 6 Japanese held

CEBU CITY—Police arrested on July 5 one of the suspects in the ambush of six Japanese engineers who worked as consultants for the P7-billion South Coastal Road Project. Alejo Abellana, 37, was arrested in his house in Aynla Heights, Barangay Pardo here.

Police said Abellana was tagged by witnesses as one of the suspects who fired at the vehicles of the six Japanese engineers Feb. 22 in St. Jude Acres Subdivision, Barangay Bulnaco, Cebu City.

Abellana denied the allegation. *Jhunner Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau*

S. Mindanao tops unemployment list

DAVAO CITY—Southern Mindanao is on top of the list of regions in Mindanao which suffer from high unemployment rates. The National Statistics Office said that in April this year, Southern Mindanao, composed of the four Davao provinces, South

Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat, recorded an unemployment rate of 25.5 percent. The figure was less than a percent lower than the national unemployment rate of 13.3 percent for the same period. Local governments are the biggest em-

ployers in these areas, the NSO said. This could be the reason newly elected local executives have been busy entertaining job applicants since assuming office last Monday. *Allan Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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DO YOU KNOW GOD?

DO YOU KNOW THE PRESENT DEMOCRATIC (DEMOCRACY) GOVERNMENT AND THE FALSE CHURCHES ARE COMING TO THEIR DISSOLUTION AND END TO BE REPLACED BY THE DIVINE GOVERNMENT OF GOD TO REIGN FOR 1,000 YEARS — UNTIL LIFE EVERLASTING?
DO YOU KNOW THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST IS THRU HIS DIVINE GOVERNMENT?

On August 27, 1983, in the Island of Mindanao, seven angels of God led by Michael, Raphael, Gabriel, Uriel, Chamael, Jophiel and Zadkiel appeared to Bro. Henry and dictated to him messages of revelation from God which are the "Seven Thunders", The "Everlasting Gospel" and the "Vision of His Great Day." On instructions from Michael, these messages are to be published in America as a "book" to be entitled "The Sound of the Seventh Trumpet" only after 12 years from date of revelation of the messages. Publication of the book has already begun, but run out of copies presently.

The Bible (KJV/NKJV) mentions about the Mystery of God (Rev. 10:7), the Seven Thunders (Rev. 10:3-4), the Everlasting Gospel (Rev. 14:6) and the little book (Rev. 10:2 & 10:8-9) the content of which was not revealed. The Book, The Sound of the Seventh Trumpet revealed all the contents of the Mystery of God, the Seven Thunders & Everlasting Gospel. It also gives us prophecies of events that shall happen to the Philippines and to the World beginning with EDSA I (the events are faithfully happening and continuously happening).

ACCORDING TO THE MESSAGES:

- The Divine Government of God (The millennial Kingdom of God) will be established first in the Philippines and spread to other nations of the world as "Camp of the Saints" and the Philippines is the beloved city (where the new power for the nations — the power of the riches of the sea, fountains of living waters and the water of life on earth will be found) and become most powerful nation where great peace, abundance and happiness reigns under the Lord Jesus Christ, the true God and Father Almighty. However, unless we believe, gather and fulfill the TRUTH (EVERLASTING GOSPEL) but JESUS CHRIST was and is GOD AND FATHER, we belong to god Satan! The wrath of God will be upon us to shake our earth upside down (volcanic eruptions & earthquakes) and mean weathers shall hurt nations and a few shall be saved unto His Great Day!
- The present Christianity is the anti-Christ Christianity (hence it is divided into so many churches, and each claims to be the true church) that continues after the Lord and His apostles, and His faithful left off.
- They taught us different Jesus Christs — and not one is the true Jesus Christ. Hence they only brought us to a period of great confusion and tribulation. Confusion — because the faithfuls are confused on which is the true Jesus Christ. And tribulation — because, the wrath of the Lord's curse is upon us. Hence, the present calamities to calamities plagues to plagues and hardships in our living conditions and is fast getting unto the worst. — these are the fruits of our sorcery, false miracles and pagan practices and most especially we do not know the true Jesus Christ!
- The Antichrist Christianity (false churches and false prophets) and Democracy (the red dragon, the red colored beast which is also Satan, the god of this world; its red color is communism and socialism, its evil science, politics) in our country is NOW IN SELF-DESTRUCT knowing that their time is almost up against the coming Great Day of the Lord — the millennial Kingdom of God — the Divine Government.
- They would rally for a change — and fight to correct the defects of their government system. But God would show them — that correcting a government system, which was not their true government right from the start — shall only mean their total destruction. Unless they are harvested by the LORD unto the rule of His government — The Divine Government of God — the government of Man (Democracy) would see the end of their government system of destruction.
- The Lord made His scriptures a PUZZLE OR A MYSTERY FOR ALL TO SOLVE in discovering the true Jesus Christ (the Truth) — and only then shall we be set free from the bondage of oppression, economic devastation, and deprivation at the hands of Babylon the Great (the democratic system or the government of ancient pagan Greece and Rome), and Mystery Babylon the Great (the anti-Christ Christianity or false churches). And only then will, the Lord and His angels install His millennial kingdom (the theocratic form of government — the Divine Government) on the earth through us as His third and final God — and give us in His hundred fold reward — then inherit eternal life.
- The LORD GOD revealed Himself unto Man in so many names. But the LORD gave Himself a new name. For He would send himself unto the sons and daughters of Man. And the new name that He gave unto Himself — was, and is JESUS CHRIST — this is the name of HIS MIND, or HIS INTELLIGENCE, or HIS WISDOM, this is the name of HIS POWER (HOLY SPIRIT); this is the name of HIS WORD; this is the name of HIS IMAGE (or the image of HIS SUBSTANCE, or the image of HIS PERSON) or HIS CELESTIAL BODY, or HIS ANGEL — or HIS SON; and this is the name of HIS QUICKENING SPIRIT or HIS LAMB — this is the complete JESUS CHRIST — the true GOD — and our ALMIGHTY FATHER — and LIFE EVERLASTING.
- The Seventh Angel has already sounded his trumpet announcing that the Mystery of God is already finished bringing Man unto the Everlasting Gospel of God for the final revelation of the TRUTH and calls for every Filipino and to the whole world to gather, believe and fulfill it and come out from Mystery Babylon, the Great, the great whore, and her harlots, for unless they do so, their names shall not be written in the LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE. The Bible Revelation (Rev. 18:4) also commands us to come out of the great whore, Mystery Babylon, The Great.
- The Everlasting Gospel of God calls for every Filipino and the world, the evil and wicked — all leaders of the nations — all the powerful and the rich — all the strong and the weak and all the poor — who are still not gathered unto the one true church of the true GOD — the true church of the LORD JESUS CHRIST — to await of the last chance to congregate themselves unto the kingdom of GOD — His Divine Government. This is OUR GOVERNMENT AND OUR CHURCH united under the Lord Jesus Christ — True God and Almighty Father, Life Everlasting.

The Lord already revealed Himself to His first and second folds, hence they were already saved — now He revealed Himself again for the final fold through His Everlasting Gospel — for His third and final fold reveal Himself to us as JESUS CHRIST — THE LORD GOD AND FATHER ALMIGHTY, that He the God who created everything (the heavens and the earth), who is the King of Israel (Isaiah 44:6 & John 1:47-50) and his redeemer, the LORD of hosts, the first and the last, who said that outside Him there is no other God (Isaiah 44:6-7 & 45:21-22) HE HUMBLIED HIMSELF AND CAME DOWN DISGUISED AS MAN, or form of man as Son of Man, and as Son of God (Mat. 16:13-16, Luke 9:20, Romans 9:5) (Titus 2:10 & 13, 1 John 5:30) (Rev. 1:7, 8, 11, 17, Rev. 4:8-11, Rev. 11:16-17), and finally revealed to us that He was all these (Rev. 21:7), that we are His sons and daughters and He is our God and Father (Rev. 22:13-16). He came also as the Holy Spirit (Rev. 2:18, 29, 2 Corin. 3:16-17). He was not born of a woman (Mat. 1:11). He is spirit and quickening spirit and not living soul (the body of man) (1 Corin. 15:45). He is not man nor Son of Man (Numbers 23:9). To their eyes He was flesh and bones (Luke 24:39), but to be touched — for He was and is spirit (John 20:25-29, Mat. 17:2, Rev. 1:16, Luke 4:29-30). Hence His body was not corruptible for it was and is spirit and quickening spirit, and not living soul; as the body of man (1 Peter 1:18-20). So, if He is God — He is God before, now, and forever — because Jesus Christ never changed (Heb. 13:8). God & His disguise are one and the same (John 7:3, John 10:30, 1 John 5:20). His disguise manifested His name (John 17:6) therefore His disguise came in His name (John 5:43).

Therefore, he who sees His disguise sees Him, or sees Him that sent Him (John 14:6-9); God sent Himself into the world through His disguise (His servant — His very own image, or His Spiritual body, or Spirit, or Holy Spirit — the image of His substance, or the express image of His person whom He begot and called His only begotten Son) or His quickening spirit (Isaiah 42:1, Isaiah 48:11-17).

The Lord disguises as a mighty man (Isaiah 42:13) but in substance was and is spirit and quickening spirit (1 Cor. 15:45). When He proved to them His Godship — He appeared to them to be seen by them, yet not to be touched by them (John 20:26-29). Also by His name He created all things (Ephesians 3:9). He condemned the Jews for in His disguise they could not acknowledge or recognize Him (John 8:24).

Mystery Babylon the Great made us to believe that the anti-Christ (and Christ) is yet still to come, when in fact those are now about to be put to their end by the Lord, that's why they are now in self-destruct together with their most powerful weapons — globalization, one world government, one-world religion-knowing that their time is almost up.

Hence, our call to all Filipinos and to the World to congregate and install His Divine Government. This is our PURPOSE in this world so we can return triumphant and become His holy angels again. Enoch & Elijah were special servants of GOD. He took them back to where they came from to show unto us that we were and are not of this world!

If you know God and His Divine Government, please answer the following questions. The answers to these questions were all taken from the book, The Sound of the Seventh Trumpet.

1. The whole race, (including Filipinos) of the world came from Adam & Eve of the Bible in Genesis 2:7-9? Yes ☐ No ☐
2. In Genesis 7:1 God destroyed all living things He created with the flood of the earth leaving Noah, his wife & his 3 sons & their wives. Hence, all Man came from this genealogy? Yes ☐ No ☐
3. In Genesis 1:26 "Then God said, let us make Man in Our image according to Our likeness." means that (besides from God, there is still one like Him because of the word "Us" & "Our")? Yes ☐ No ☐
4. Jesus Christ body is the same as man since He came down as man and born of Virgin Mary? Yes ☐ No ☐
5. God created Man to only one wife at a time? Hence, He forbade Man to have 2 or 3 wives at the same time? Yes ☐ No ☐
6. In Genesis 1:27 "God created man in His own image in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them" — is the male and female mentioned in this verse are the holy and holies angels? Yes ☐ No ☐
7. Are we the fallen angels? Yes ☐ No ☐
8. Jesus Christ is the God of the Muslims, Abraham, Isaac, Michael, Jacob, Moses & all prophets and his servants. In the Old Testament? Yes ☐ No ☐
9. The holy virgin Mary is the mother of God and the Queen of Heaven and Earth? Yes ☐ No ☐
10. Do you believe that reincarnation is true according to the bible? Yes ☐ No ☐
11. Where was God before He created the heavens & the earth as stated in Genesis 1:1?
 - a) on earth
 - b) in the heavens
 - c) state of chaos
 - d) infinite empty space
 - e) universe
 - f) none of the above

Answers: 1-5 — NO; 6-10 — YES. (I please call us

Know more about the Divine Government, Seven Thunders, Everlasting Gospel and the Vision of His Great Day by attending our forum every Saturday 9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. @ CAMEC, 797 EDSA, Diliman, Q.C. Tel. Nos. 9341647/9285619 or call 0917-8410620, 0917-8349132 or fax nos. 9284883/9284869/0917875288. In Davao City telefax no. 082-2348810. We collect P100.00 as registration fee to cover lunch, snack, cocktails and the book/handouts (bible verses proof that God Almighty Father & Jesus Christ are one). This is a first come first served basis. Only those with reservations will be admitted, we require participants to have an open mind in search for the truth. Limited to only 10 participants, the rest will be rescheduled.

We are non-partisan, non-political, non-profit and no religious affiliation. If you like a copy of the book "The Sound of the Seventh Trumpet" please call us. According to Michael the Archangel, "The Everlasting Gospel of GOD, His Seven Thunders and The Vision of His Great Day are PRICELESS. Only the salvation of the souls of man could be their price."

INQUIRER Mindanao

JUN BANDAYREL, Editor

A long way home for a farmer's son

BY NASH B. MAULANA
Jolo, Sulu

THOUSANDS of Tausugs from Jolo to Patikul cried on the day Ynsop Jikiri went back to Sulu to assume his position as the province's elected governor.

Muslim and Christian residents mobbed the soft-spoken farmer's son from Indanan town, as he stepped down from a boat from Zamboanga City on July 1.

President Macapagal Arroyo earlier swore into office the 52-year-old Jikiri in a simple ceremony in Malacañang after receiving an order from the Commission on Elections to assume office because an earlier directive nullifying his proclamation on June 20 has been lifted.

Jikiri, Chief of Staff of the Moro National Liberation Front, who did not finish his bachelor's degree on education when the war broke out in 1970, vowed to emancipate his people from "poverty and ignorance." He called on them to help the province regain "(Sulu's) glorious historic past as a great nation

of a great people."

Schoolchildren waved at his group as it passed by his alma mater, the Indanan Elementary and National High School, on the way to his camp uphill, where his small house and an old mosque stand.

His relatives served the thanksgiving (*dua*) foods of noodles, cooked rice, chicken soup and fried fish on *dulang* (large round trays shared by visitors in groups of four or five).

A Catholic priest representing Jolo Bishop Angelito Lampon and Imam Abubakar Usman attended Jikiri's installation at the Provincial Capitol in Patikul town the next day. "Believe it or not," he said, "I only had P100,000 when I decided to run, the rest of the fund that we spent (in the campaign) were those from the modest contribution of

(former) Gov. Tupay Loong."

In his inaugural speech, Jikiri warned his people against committing abuses, as well as of allowing the peril of "divisive rumor-mongering among (them)," which, he said, "could arise (because of) anywhere between envy to advancing one's selfish interests."

He urged his fellow Tausugs to move forward instead and with peace "reigning once more in this land," to devote their time and efforts on the fruits of education; massive agricultural program; infrastructure and transport development; anti-illegal drugs campaign and sports development, and health services.

Great land

"My government is your government, for truly I belong to you, I am among you, a son of a poor family. To this land I give my life, body and soul. Let me, therefore, seek your cooperation. Come to me as your elder brother, (or) even as your father and together we can make this land great once more in history," he told thousands of well-



HIS CONSTITUENTS wish newly installed Sulu Gov. Ynsop Jikiri well during his proclamation on July 1

wishers at the Provincial Capitol.

By bringing back the historic past of Sulu as a great nation, Jikiri did not probably mean that he wanted to affirm the Misuari-led MNLF's recent declaration of a Bangsamoro Republic.

Abdur Ilman, a provincial official, stressed that the Tausug is a Filipino.

He said that as citizens of this country, it might be easy to say that "I love this country, but it is quite difficult to do it, especially when the justice system is weak as

in the case of Sulu."

Ilman, a close observer said, could be referring to some MNLF leaders, who left Mindanao during the height of the wars in the 1970s and sought asylum abroad. "Only Jikiri, his men and siblings (he lost a brother, Ibro and scores of his men in the war) stood by us here in Sulu during those days," Muhammad Jade, a resident said.

Jikiri was one of the 15 MNLF officials, who signed an MNLF manifesto seeking the ouster of

Misuari as its chair. But that did not prevent him from winning in a province where residents are viewed as sympathetic to Misuari.

Jikiri's running mate, Abdel S. Annie also won. His party, the People Power Coalition (PPC)-MNLF, managed to win eight of the ten seats in the provincial board.

The two congressional seats in the province, however, went to Jikiri's party mate Munir Arbison (2nd district) and Nationalist People's Coalition (NPC) reelectionist Rep. Hussin Amin (1st district)

KILLING A CULTURE

A restoration that went wrong

BY BERT LAZARIO
Dipolog City

FOR ALMOST a century now, the nine-meter-high wooden cross that was erected 96 years ago near the beach here was a part of every Dipolognons' life. For them the cross has protected the city, answered their prayers and guided them as they went on with their lives.

But when government workers sawed it into three pieces in what local officials described as "restoration" work, the residents became furious. They vowed to send to jail those responsible for "destroying" the cross.

"We will sue them," said Estrellita Manogura, former secretary of the Sta. Cruz Organization (SCO), a group organized by Dipolognons right after the cross was erected on May 3, 1905.

The SCO has been tasked to keep watch over the cross. Membership in the organization is passed on from generation to generation.

Asked whom they will drag to court, Manogura answered: "The present officers of SCO and some government officials. They did not just cut a cross, they destroyed in a couple of hours a way of life that survived for 96 years."

Unclear Plan

It all started when SCO officials led by its president Junior Jamilla asked Mayor Roberto Uy to help them repair the cross because it was "fast deteriorating."

Uy then sent a letter to Bishop Jose Mangunam of the Diocese of Dipolog, asking permission to repair the cross. After getting a nod from the Catholic Church, Uy ordered City Architect Gerardo Realiza to plan and implement a "restoration" work on the cross.

Eng near Marcos Lazario of the City Architect's Office told the Inquirer that together with the City Tourism Office they came up with a supposed "restoration" plan, cut the original cross, replace it with concrete, chop the outer layer of the wooden cross and glue it on the concrete cross.

"The result would be a strong cross that resembles the old wooden cross," Lazario said, adding that the SCO members and officers did not object to the plan.

However, Berto Manogura, SCO adviser, said there was never an agreement to implement the "restoration" plan during the three consultative meetings called by the local government officials and the SCO.



NOT just a piece of wood, the cross that has recently been cut into three, is a symbol of the city's history.

repair of the upper portion of the cross.

Replica

Even OIC-City Engineer Nedilla Magdayao said the City Architect's plan was not a restoration, but a construction of a concrete replica of the cross.

At first, the residents thought that the government was just undertaking repair works on the cross, after scaffoldings were put up.

But on June 11 at 2 p.m., workers of the City Architect's Office led by Lazario started to cut the cross, twice, using a chain saw.

"They (local officials) apparently deceived the people and implemented their own plan to concretize the cross," Berto Manogura claimed.

"They carried on with their plan when we were all in our offices," he said.

As news about the cutting of the cross spread, residents became furious.

Indignation

Some even stoned the house of SCO officials whom they accused of collaborating with local officials.

Some called up radio stations to air their indignation, while others lighted candles and organized vigils.

There were even those who threatened to kill SCO officers, government officials and the workers involved.

Apparently trying to appease the angry residents, Uy transferred the restoration work to the City Engineering Office. He also ordered Magdayao to bring back the cross



to its original state.

Magdayao promised to complete the restoration by July 15. "Our task is to restore the cross and to strengthen it."

Damage done

Mgr. Emigdio Socas, the parish priest here, called on the residents to be calm.

"Let's be pragmatic," he said. "Damage has been done so what we have to do now is help bring it back."

The Catholic Church here offered some lumber (from a similar tree used for the cross) for the

restoration work.

But no matter how good the restoration would be, a tearful Estrellita Manogura said the cross would no longer be the same.

"Dipolog will never be the same again," she said. "The cross is not just a piece of wood. It's a story we love dearly because it is intertwined with 100,000 (Dipolog's population) other stories for years."

A tricycle driver said life would go on in Dipolog but the sad memory of an event, which could have been prevented, would linger on.

More lawyers defend the environment

BY JERRY LEE LUGA
AND AYESA C. MIRAFLORES
Davao City

PUBLIC interest lawyers are an increasing breed in a fast-deteriorating world and no less than the Supreme Court justice has taken notice of this.

Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., in commenting the almost 100 lawyers who gathered here beginning Thursday, said he "look(ed) forward to the day when Endefense (Environmental Defense) will work hand in hand with the Supreme Court in support of the judicial reform program and all the Court's initiatives on environmental law."

There are about 60 to 70 thousand lawyers nationwide, but Marvic Leonen, executive director of the Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center said it is sad that only a few lawyers are practicing in environmental laws.

But despite this, he said there is a growing number of lawyers practicing in environmental laws.

"Times are changing," he said, "and we need the development of a pro-environmental movement in the legal schools like the University of the Philippines College of Law."

Indeed, if the country's biodiversity were an indicator, mainstream lawyers should now start reconsidering the kind of legal practice they pursue.

Leonen said this is a matter of legal practitioners deciding to "be united with communities" who are struggling to defend and preserve their life-support systems.

Ipat Luna, executive director of the Bablonia Wilner Foundation, revealed that the Philippines has been identified as "the hottest of the hot spots" among nations worldwide in terms of bio-diversity.

Seventy five percent of the world's plants and animals can be found in the country, she said, and all these are "under severe threat by human activities."

"This results to (intense) poverty for over 60 percent of Filipinos who are dependent on the nation's resource base. This is a threat to national security itself," she warned.

Luna, however, said that lawyering for public interest is still largely dependent on the decisions of communities at risk.

Unlike highly paid corporate lawyers who take the cudgels for their transnational company

clients, public interest lawyers take the cue from the communities.

She said it depends on whether community members are ready or not to initiate actions to protect their rights over their life-support systems.

Meanwhile, Davide wished that the "conference be a herald of a bright future for the environment, where the legal profession and the courts work together for the preservation of our natural treasures for the generations yet unborn."

"Let not the latter inherit nothing but parched earth, incapable of sustaining life," Davide said.

Promise

This early, one of the "green" lawyers' vow is to block the confirmation of Henson Alvarez as environment secretary unless he can draw up a policy direction on environment and natural resources issues, including that of the Mehan Gardens in Manila.

Leonen said that the lawyers, together with nongovernment organizations and other environment activists, will stay vigilant until Congress opens on July 26 because of the possible backroom negotiations between Alvarez and the Commission on Appointments.

"I hope we are proven wrong. This time around, the NGOs have committed to be more vigilant against interest groups and congressmen during the confirmation process," Leonen told newsmen.

He said they are opposed to Alvarez because of his lack of direction in resolving environment and natural resources issues.

The "green lawyers" from the LRC, the Environmental Legal Assistance Center (ELAC), Tanggol Kalikasan and the Paglilingkod Batas Pangkapatiran Foundation Inc. (PBPF), said they would press Alvarez and the Arroyo administration to have a concrete stand on issues like mining, logging, DENR bureaucracy, community empowerment and land tenure issues.

"These are the topics, these are our stand," Leonen said.

DOLE backs P125 raise in minimum pay

(From page A1)

this month, then surely private sector workers are also entitled to a corresponding adjustment in wages," former Sen. Ernesto Herrera said.

Herrera, secretary general of the moderate Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, said rising fuel prices and the weakening peso had led to "a sustained inflationary pressure on consumer prices and a decline in the purchasing power of wages."

Local oil companies have raised fuel prices by an average of 82

centavos per liter the past two months. More increases are expected in the coming months if world crude prices continue to shoot up and the peso weakens further against the dollar. Herrera said the TUCP and other labor groups were stepping up their campaign for pay increases in the third quarter "in view of the rapid erosion of the buying power of fixed wage earners."

The minimum wage in Metro Manila was last adjusted in November 2000 when the daily basic pay was raised by P26.50 to P250. Cor-

responding adjustments were likewise made in the minimum wage rates in other regions.

Various studies, however, indicate that workers are having a hard time making both ends meet.

According to a study in May by the Department of Labor and Employment's National Wages and Productivity Commission (NWPC), a family of six in Metro Manila must have a daily income of P309.10 for food and other basic necessities.

Based on the NWPC estimate of

a "living wage," workers in Metro Manila are "reasonably entitled to an increase of at least P59.10 over the existing regional minimum wage of P250," Herrera said.

Still another study in April by the non-government organization Ibon Databank showed a household of six in Metro Manila must earn P505.17 daily to live decently.

Flavier bill

Such studies have prompted Lakas Sen. Juan Flavier to file a bill seeking a P125 legislative daily

wage increase for workers in the private sector.

Bayan Muna Representative-elect Crispin Beltran, chair of the militant Kilusang Mayo Uno, is expected to file the counterpart bill in the House of Representatives.

Herrera, former chair of the Senate labor and employment committee, said he expected either the regional wage boards or the new Congress to approve an increase in the minimum wage before the end of the year.

Teddy Casifio, secretary general

of Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, described as "a welcome development" Labor Secretary Sto. Tomas' proposal for a P125 increase in the minimum wage.

But Casifio said the wage increase, which is determined by the regional wage boards, should be legislated by Congress for workers in all regions.

"It would be a feather in the cap of the Macapagal administration if Congress decides to enact a P125 across-the-board increase nationwide," he said.

'Pro-Gloria but not pro-administration'

(From page A1)

The two dailies will be under one management, he said, adding that it was after all Kabayan that bought the Times.

"There will be no conflict because we will be pro-Gloria. We'll come out in the open from Day One. We are not *bolero* (pretending to be what we're not)," Ang told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

To this end, he said, he would make "radical changes" in the paper's editorial policy but would retain its present masthead.

Asked how a paper could be pro-Gloria but not pro-administration, Ang pointed out that US newspapers were known to favor either the Democrats or the Republicans.

"In the Philippines, which paper has no bias? So we will not hide (ours)," he said.

At her weekly press conference on Friday, the President denied speculation that she was behind Ang's takeover of the Times.

"My name is always dragged (into controversies). It's an occupational hazard," she said when asked about the issue.

Asked if the speculation offended her, Ms. Macapagal said "Oh, once you become President... you must be mentally and psychologically prepared not to be offended all the time."

Ang denied that he was merely fronting for the President's family, which, one newspaper reported, was now the real owner of the Times.

"Am I a crony? I'm not. Since I became her publicist in 1993, I never had any contract or papers signed by her," he said.

He claimed not to have been paid for his services all this time. Ang said that sometime in 1993,

when Ms. Macapagal was on her first term as senator, she gave him a P30,000 check. He deposited this into his account and wrote out a check for the same amount in her name.

"Please accept this as my contribution to the cause," he said he told Ms. Macapagal in presenting the check.

"Since then, she never tried to pay me again," he said.

Ang said his purchase of the Times had been in the works for the past months, when he learned from a friend that Jimenez was having trouble paying the staff and the suppliers and wanted to sell.

He said he also had a "sentimental attachment" to the Times because his grandmother worked as an encoder for its sister publication, *La Vanguardia*, in its early years under its original owners, the Roces family.

The Gokongwei family bought

the Times from the Rocses in the 1980s. When Estrada was president he was angered by a report saying that he was the "unwitting godfather" of an allegedly spurious deal, and slapped the paper with a libel suit.

This forced a front-page apology from Times executive Robina Gokongwei-Pe, and Estrada subsequently withdrew the suit. Later, the Gokongweis sold the paper to a group led by lawyer Katrina Legarda, which, insiders said, was merely fronting for Jimenez.

Ang said he would pay the unpaid salaries of the Times employees and would retain some of them.

"They will all get paid. Some of them have to go," he said.

Apart from his newspaper posts, Ang is also board chair of the government-sequestered RPN 9, director of the state-run Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp., and board member of the APO Trust Fund.

De facto press sec

To explain why he acts like a press secretary although Noel Cabrera holds that position, Ang said, "Because I'm her private publicist, I have to call and coordinate closely with the press secretary (Cabrera) and the presidential spokesperson (Rigoberto Tiglao)."

He said his job was to advise the President on "how to handle and project an issue."

For example, he said, her tough talk against the Abu Sayyaf - "Isang bala na lang kayo (You're worth only one bullet)" and "Uulanin kayo ng bala (Bullets will rain on you)" - were his doing.

And it paid off for the President,

as reflected in the rise in her approval rating, he said.

"That projected a take-charge image because in truth, she is a take-charge President. It sent the message to the people in Mindanao that she will not tolerate terrorism, like the Abu Sayyaf," Ang said.

"I think people are looking at her for directions. She is a... no-nonsense President and she is managing, governing very well," he said.

Asked why the bandit group had not been annihilated and why its hostages were being freed only because of ransom payments, he said:

Ilusorio daughter wants mother executor of will

(From page A1)

Ilusorio, from being executors of a will that her father allegedly wrote before he died and to designate their mother as sole executor.

Her petition also alleged that there were pending cases "involving the unauthorized and fraudulent transfers of several conjugal properties (belonging to the Ilusorios spouses) in favor of Ma. Erlinda Bildner and Sylvia Ilusorio, both of whom were named as executors in the will together with Erlinda Ilusorio and persons or entities under their control."

In her petition, Shereen alleged that her father filed a probate of his will, which he reportedly executed on June 4, 1998 before the Baguio City Regional Trial Court.

In that will, Ilusorio bequeathed to his wife Erlinda and six children "in equal shares, all my property, real and personal, whatsoever and wheresoever."

The Ilusorios' six children are

Ramon, Ma. Erlinda, Maximo, Sylvia, Marietta and Shereen.

Conflict of interest

Hence, Shereen pointed out that the two "would have a conflict of interest with the estate of the deceased and the other heirs of the deceased. As such they are not competent to serve as executors of the will, Shereen's petition stated.

Ilusorio's will also specify that any decision by the executors, according to the will, would be binding and valid when approved or done by any of the two executors.

But Shereen asked the court to exclude her sisters Lin and Sylvia from serving as executors of her father's will.

Cops sport 'JV cut'

(From page A1)

the rage in the Estrada hometown, now that virtually the entire San Juan police force has decided to adopt the same haircut.

Supt. Rodolfo de Gracia, chief of the San Juan police, said almost all of the municipality's 219 policemen have complied with his directive, issued Monday, to "follow the clean cut of the mayor."

Only the district's 11 policewomen have been spared from copying what San Juan folks have dubbed the "JV cut."

Ejercito, son of deposed president and longtime San Juan mayor Joseph Estrada, sports a crew cut with a flat top that highlights his cheeks.

"This is just to show our support and concern for our new mayor," De Gracia told the INQUIRER in a phone interview yesterday.

Ejercito himself seemed pleased to see his hards on the policemen, saying the uniform look was a show of discipline among the ranks, the police chief said.

De Gracia emphasized that the policemen were acting on their "own initiative" and that the mayor had nothing to do with the directive.

"We still have more bullets."

'Very pointed'

Ang went on to show his stuff as the President's publicist.

He described her as "very professional" and possessing a "very pointed" attitude as boss and Chief Executive.

He added: "She doesn't waste time. People mistake her for being *mataray* (imperious), but she wants straight talk and wants results. If you have a project, better be ready to present her the results. Otherwise, your phone will ring and she will be asking what has happened."

"And she has a very good memory, an elephant's memory. She remembers things her people promised to do."

According to Ang, the President's work ethic is one of the biggest factors that set her apart from Estrada.

"She wakes up early and sleeps late. She watches the evening news so that she can monitor whether her people are doing their job," he said.

Asked if Ms. Macapagal planned to seek reelection in 2004, Ang said it was "still early" to talk about it.

"The best way of getting elected in 2004 is not to think of it now but to just do the right thing. It will come," he said.

Cabbie drives Pinoy pal around America

(From page A1)

as if I have been on the giving end, but believe me, I got a lot out of this more than I gave. My experience with Tony has changed my life," he said at the embassy celebration, his feet not quite touching the ground.

Why Tony? "He was the kindest," Brad said. "And he welcomed me into his family and his village in a way that was special. We also had similar experiences and hopes in life, and the same sense of humor."

Their encounter is recounted in Newsham's second book, "Take Me With You: A Round-the-World Journey to Invite a Stranger Home." It is as much a story of keeping one's dream alive as of forging a lasting friendship.

Brad was 21, traveling with a friend in Afghanistan on a shoestring budget, when he wrote in his journal "Someday, when I am rich, I am going to invite someone from my travels to visit me in America."

Newsham, who has also published another travel book titled "All the Right Places," is planning a third. He plans to write this one with Tony.

Brad, who lives in Oakland, California, has been driving a cab for 15 years now. When he made his promise to Tony, he had no money to burn.

But in 1992, he completed the manuscript of "Take Me With You," an account of his 100-day trip to the Philippines, India, Egypt, East and South Africa to finance his dream.

While Brad shopped around for publishers, he and Tony traded letters,

with Brad ever the optimist.

In 1999, Traveler's Tales paid him an \$8,000-advance for his book. Finally, he had the money for Tony's long trip from the Mountain Province to Capitol Hill.

But the friends had one more mountain to climb: Tony's visa.

After one rejection at the US Embassy in Manila, and a number of strings pulled on Brad's side through a friend in the US State Department, Tony was finally granted a special interview for a visa.

Soon, Tony, a second-year high school dropout who had always wanted to visit America, was on his way to make both his dream and Brad's come true.

Awestruck

Tony, who leaves for Manila today, will bring home tales of kindness from his American friend and his family, and also from strangers.

A pilot of a four-seater who heard of their tour flew them over the San Francisco Bay Area for free. Tony not only saw the famous Golden Gate, but got to co-pilot the plane for 15 minutes.

Here in the US capital, he was awestruck by the Lincoln Memorial. He had learned about Abraham Lincoln in school. He kept pinching himself, afraid it was all a dream.

"I... can't believe it," he told the INQUIRER. "Brad is a special person, he has changed my life."

He said New York was his favorite place "because I could walk." He was also very impressed with America's technology.

He added: "I also knew America was a rich country. Still, I was sur-

prised to see that America has homeless people. But everyone I met has been very kind, and all opened their hearts to me."

Still, there were times during the 13-day trip that Tony felt homesick for his family: wife Rita and children Lorie, Lynn, Frans, Gladys and Rouel, aged 18 to 7.

Tony sometimes used his friend's cell phone to talk to another Filipino. Washington Embassy Consul Patricia Ann V. Paer became his phone pal.

New eye

The Filipino now sports a better, prosthetic right eye (he lost his eye in a fight years ago), thanks to a specialist in Oakland.

And he says he has regained his self-confidence.

Nonetheless, Tony said he had been nervous about coming to the Embassy reception. Wearing his black hat, a United Taxi Workers T-shirt and denim jacket and pants, he said he had been worried about meeting dignitaries.

But the warm welcome, *pancit bihnan*, barbecue and fried rice, all downed with ice-cold San Miguel beer, made him feel right at home. So did a joyful traditional dance performed by a Filipino-American group, Bimok (Benguet, Ifugao, Mt. Province, Apayao, Abra and Kalinga).

For his part, the friendly and easy-going Newsham looked as triumphant as he would have if he had just climbed Mount Everest.

Said Ariel Y. Abadilla, charge d'affaires: "This is an example of an American and Filipino friendship that has blossomed."

'Feria' devastation revives bill on total log ban

(From page A1)

capacity to restore and maintain ecological balance, Pimentel said in his statement.

He noted that loggers were building roads by cutting and bulldozing swaths through the jungles. In the process, he said, they were destroying the undergrowth, saplings and other vegetation.

"Our forests are at the mercy of those who rape the environment by engaging in illegal activities to satisfy selfish commercial motives," Pimentel said.

He said government officials supported to lead the crusade to protect the environment were the ones abetting the "revolving practice" of forest denudation.

Worse, he said, a big portion of funds earmarked for the government's reforestation program was landing in the pockets of certain individuals.

Under Pimentel's bill, violators of the log ban will be imprisoned for not less than five years but not more than 10 years, and their licenses or permits to do business in the country will be revoked.

Record breaker

Joseph Rios, chief of the weather bureau in Baguio, said Typhoon Fera broke the record when it dumped 1,085.8 millimeters of rain on Wednesday.

The highest rainfall previously recorded was Typhoon Ullang's 994.6 mm in 1998.

"In fact, the rainfall this week exceeded our anticipated target of 838.4 mm for 26 days in July," Rios said.

He expressed surprise at comments from residents that they had received no warning of the typhoon.

Even the mayors in central and eastern Pangasinan admitted that weather reports they had received did not indicate Fera's strength.

"I thought the reports said the typhoon was due to hit only Cagayan Valley. So we did not prepare for it," said carpenter Boy Galuqui, whose house was almost torn apart by the typhoon.

"I was watching the (evening news) Tuesday evening, and I never heard the weather bulletin specify that Fera was bound for Baguio," said Armando, a restaurant supervisor.

"I was surprised when the rain started pouring that evening, and I was shocked when I encountered a big flood downtown on Wednesday when I went to work," he said.

He added that by the time the enormity of the storm's impact had struck him, he was already hearing news of the deaths of not only victims but also rescuers.

Most of the deaths in Baguio were attributed to landslides in the mountain villages.

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit, the first Cabinet secretary to visit Baguio after the typhoon, distributed at least P400,000 worth of medicines and food to residents Friday.

More than 500 families are being housed in 11 evacuation centers put up by the City Disaster Coordinating Council.

Dayrit said Baguio suffered much damage compared to other parts of Northern Luzon and Pangasinan.

He said the Baguio General Hospital was badly damaged, and attributed this to the poor construction of the building and its unsafe location.

"The area is landslide-prone. It's the

fault of the contractor," he said.

The city government promised to give P2,500 each to the families of those killed during the typhoon.

Mindset

Rios said the residents' complaints merely reflected their mindset on weather forecasts.

He said seven Pagasa bulletins, issued through government agencies and news bureaus, tracked Fera when it bore down on Northern Luzon as early as Tuesday.

"The typhoon hit Fort San Vicente, which is the tip of Cagayan, so we had the right coordinates. Maybe the issue is how the people interpreted the bulletins," he said, adding.

"Our weather bulletin on Tuesday indicated that the typhoon was about to hit Northern Luzon, and we warned that stormy weather and moderate-to-heavy rainfall could be expected."

Rios said Pagasa provided the first storm bulletin on Tuesday afternoon, followed by a 10:45 a.m. announcement that Signal No. 1 had been raised over Northern Luzon.

The last bulletin indicated that the signal was upgraded to No. 2 at 4:45 a.m. Wednesday.

"Maybe the problem is that we have become too used to these signals," Rios said. "The last weather bulletin was for Typhoon Esmor, and it did not hit us. Even Typhoon Darna missed us completely despite warnings. So maybe that was why Fera caught everyone off-guard."

Rios acknowledged that the people needed weather bulletins that could comprehend. He said the people should indicate what they did not understand in the bulletins.

"But in the end," he said, "we must acknowledge the fact that people have always been reactive. When they hear a signal alert, I don't think they really prepare for a storm. If you live in a highly dangerous zone and you know a storm is coming, shouldn't you be fixing your drains and stop throwing garbage? I don't think anyone affected in Baguio even considered that."

Oil shortage

In Ilocos Sur, officials and motorists expressed alarm over the shortage of oil and other petroleum products.

Only light vehicles are allowed to pass the Amburayan Bridge located at the boundary of La Union and Ilocos Sur. The Department of Public Works and Highways has yet to start rebuilding the Quinsno Bridge, which was destroyed by the typhoon.

A barge is being temporarily used to transport commuters.

The damage to agriculture and livestock in the province was initially placed at more than P35 million.

With power off, owners of cell phones were lining up at generator-powered establishments to charge their units.

In Ilocos Norte, the bridge connecting Badoc town to Laoag City has collapsed.

Officials placed the damage to infrastructure and crops at P23.4 million.

In Cagayan and Isabela, the typhoon damaged rice and farm crops worth more than P254 million, according to agriculture regional director

Gumercindo Lasam. With reports from Vincente Cabrera, Yolanda Fuentes, Jovelyn Reyes, Leoncio Balbin Jr., Cristina Arzadon and Estanislao Caldeja, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Rafter finalist anew

Agassi loses cool after two 'bad' calls by the same linesman



HENMAN. Crowd favorite

King's \$12.5M bogus—Lewis

NEW YORK—Charges and counter charges flew back and forth Friday concerning negotiations, or lack thereof, for a rematch between heavyweight champion Hasim Rahman and Lennox Lewis.

At first there was a report out of London that Lewis said he would accept promoter Don King's \$12.5 million offer for a rematch with Rahman provided he gets certain guarantees.

By late afternoon, however, Lewis said in a statement released through Main Events, his New Jersey-based co-promoter, that, "although there have been press reports of a \$12,500,000 offer to me by Don King that offer was completely bogus."

"I have no problem with Don King promoting my rematch with Hasim Rahman on Oct. 6, provided he backs up his offer of \$12.5 million to buy out my promotional rights with certain guarantees within the week," Lewis had said earlier Friday.

King countered by saying his offer meant Lewis has "nothing to do with it but show up at the press conferences and the fight." AP

WIMBLEDON, England—As Patrick Rafter began to celebrate his dramatic victory Friday in the Wimbledon semifinals, an angry Andre Agassi fired one last shot.

Walking toward the net, Agassi pulled a ball from his pocket and belted it at the lineswoman who had infuriated him in the next-to-last game. She dodged out of the way and the ball slammed against the backstop.

The incident tainted a marvelous match worthy of tennis' best rivalry, with Rafter rallying from a 5-3 deficit in the final set to beat Agassi 2-6, 6-3, 3-6, 6-2, 8-6.

"I think he pretty well snapped," Rafter said.

The 28-year-old Australian, contemplating retirement after this year, will try for his first Wimbledon title in his second consecutive final. Last year he lost to Pete Sampras.

On Sunday he'll face Britain's Tim

Henman or Croatia's Goran Ivanisevic. Their semifinal was suspended by darkness after a two-hour rain delay Friday with Henman leading 5-7, 7-6 (6), 6-0, 2-1.

Henman ahead

Henman pulled ahead by surrendering just four points in the third set, which delighted a partisan Centre Court crowd and thousands of fans who watched a big-screen TV from the picnic terrace at the All England Club. He'll try to close out the victory Saturday and become the first Englishman to reach the Wimbledon final since Bunny Austin in 1938.

The women's final will follow. Venus Williams seeks her second consecutive Wimbledon title against 19-year-old Belgian Justine Henin, who ended Jennifer Capriati's bid for a Grand Slam sweep Thursday.

Rafter and Agassi, meeting in the semifinals for the third year in a row,

staged another seesaw struggle enhanced by their contrasting styles. Rafter smacked 30 aces and relentlessly rushed the net, while Agassi slugged return winners and scurried from corner to corner, his huffing and puffing audible in the stands.

Agassi's annoyance

But for all his effort in the three-hour thriller, Agassi's annoyance with two linespeople may have swung the outcome.

He became angry in the fourth set, when two calls by the same linesman in the same game went against him. He subsequently lost his serve to fall behind 4-2, then hit a wild 122-mph serve that just missed the linesman.

Agassi was also angered by two rulings four points apart in the fourth set. During the ensuing changeover, chair umpire Morrissey refused Agassi's request to remove the linesman who made those calls.



RAFTER: Got breaks to clinch another stint in the finals.

Magliquian defeats Thai pug, seeks gold

BANGKOK—Juanito Magliquian, the Philippines' lone survivor from among a crew of seven, beat Thailand's Yot Saeuri to give Team Calicut Philippines a chance for the gold medal Friday in the 24th King's Cup International Amateur Boxing Championships here.

Magliquian, the reigning SEA Games panweight champion but had to go up to the light flyweight division for

this event, bucked wobbly knees in the first round after taking a right straight from the Thai.

He rallied behind solid 1-2 combinations in the remaining rounds en route to a 15-8 decision and a place in Saturday's finals.

The win set up Magliquian for a Saturday championship bout with yet another Thai, Subang Phanom,

who defeated a compatriot by default. The Thais sent 12 finalists in the 12 weight divisions while Pakistan will have three and Russia two.

Magliquian is truly a warrior. From what was told to me, one could surely imagine the effect of that solid blow in the first round. But as a Filipino, Magliquian rose from that mistake and reversed the tide of the

'Mind baggage' downs Agassi

TENNIS is a mind game. In this sport, concentration is the name of the game. If you don't have the attitude of "mind over everything," tennis isn't for you. Tennis is almost 99 percent mind, one percent sweat.

Yesterday, Andre Agassi of the United States allowed himself to be distracted by calls he deemed bad and that cost him the Wimbledon crown. London's Wimbledon, of course, is the Mt. Everest of tennis. He will rue his defeat even long after the tournament is over. He was on the brink of beating the 28-year-old Patrick Rafter yesterday, only to collapse under the weight of his own indiscretion.

Maybe, Agassi, after the second call, began to entertain thoughts the linesmen were pro-Rafter, Rafter being an Australian and therefore a "brother" of the Britons? But for all his experience, the 31-year-old Agassi, already a former Wimbledon champion, could not afford that kind of judgment.

One mistake in tennis is almost always fatal. Agassi made not just one but two mistakes—contesting two calls by linespeople. In his anger, he lost his cool and cursed. A lineswoman, hearing Agassi utter obscenities, ran to the umpire to report it. Agassi would be fined \$2,000 for that.

Did the lineswoman do the

SPECTATOR



Al S. Mendoza

right thing?

Yes. Tennis prohibits players to curse.

Definitely, the lineswoman's action added to the woes of Agassi. Agassi was already on the brink of collapse before the lineswoman did what she did.

My heart bleeds for Agassi. He was up, 5-3, in the fifth and final set, only to blow it by allowing the twin calls to destroy his concentration. Thus, even when he was serving for the match, 5-4, Agassi wasn't his own self already. The calls asked him so much they became a "mind baggage" to him all the way to the tie-break, which Rafter won, 8-6.

In short, Agassi won three-fourths of the nearly three-hour battle. Then he beat himself when it was time to put the so-called icing on the cake.

I used to play tennis. I left it for golf.

But that's another story.

Int'l football on today

GAMES TODAY

8 a.m.—Opening ceremony
9 a.m.—Army vs Air Force
11 a.m.—FEU vs PCU Dasmariñas
1 p.m.—SBC vs Kaya
3 p.m.—Navy vs UAAP

FOUR games, topped by the much-awaited match between arch-rivals Army and Air Force, will kick off the Army-Uleico International Invitational football tournament today at the ASCOM field in Fort Bonifacio, Makati City.

The Armymen and the Airmen clash

at 9 a.m. after the 8 o'clock opening ceremony where Uleico International president Carlos "Butch" Weber Jr. will give an inspirational talk and declare the tourney open.

Lt. Col. Rogelio Alvarado of the Army will welcome the guests and participants today while NCRPA president Santiago Elizalde and Brig. Gen. Romulo Narceda, ASCOM, PA commanding general, will deliver separate inspirational messages. Capt. Arnel F. Fernandez is the tournament director, while Hans Smit is the commissioner.

Pak fires 62, leads by 2 shots

SYLVANIA, Ohio—Se Ri Pak shot a 9-under-par 62 Friday to take a two stroke lead in the second round of the Jamie Farr Kroger Classic. She almost matched the course record she set three years ago while winning the first of her two consecutive Farr titles.

"Always here, I have a good memory on every hole," said Pak, who is 50 under in her 14 competitive rounds at Highland Meadows Golf Club. "All day, all week, every year I play well here."

Pak shot a 61 in the second round of the 1998 Farr—then the lowest score ever in an LPGA event, since eclipsed by Annika Sorenstam's 59 early in this season.

Starting her round on No. 10, she had birdies at 11 and 12, both on 4.5-meter (15-foot) putts. She strung together three straight birdies to close out the nine. AP

Wasted horse

WHAT would you do if you happen to own a very promising galloper whose life is cut short by just running in a meaningless barrier trial race?

Feasibility, a three-year-old dark bay colt who is touted to be a strong contender in the coming stakes races, suffered that horrible fate on a rainy afternoon last Wednesday at the San Lazaro Hippodrome.

Handled by veteran Gerardo Biazon, Feasibility was coasting home to an easy win in that 1,425-meter race when he met a tragic death just as he was about to cross the wire.

Another horse coming in from the opposite direction suddenly popped from nowhere and collided head-on to Feasibility.

Biazon was thrown off due to the impact but he managed to get back on his feet moments after though still unaware what hit them.

However, it was the sight of Feasibility, with one leg badly broken and blood oozing profusely from his nose and mouth, struggling to get up which made all early birds at San Lazaro and thousands of *kareristas* watching from the various off-track betting stations sick. Feasibility did put up a brave stand but collapsed and died later.

I texted my friends Vince Trinidad and Andy Sevilla of Winner's Circle Productions and requested them to "please explain what really happened in that race" for the benefit of the *buyang kareristas* but Vince just mentioned something about it and did not elaborate.

What happened that afternoon brought back to my mind clearly a similar incident which occurred several years back right at the very same spot where Feasibility met his death.

It was one JV Ongpin Cup day and those were the times when sportswriters never fail to cover the major races at San Lazaro. Prior to the big race, tragedy struck when

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva



horses High Risk (VA Santos Jr.) and Computerized (AB Gamboa) collided head-on, killing both horses instantly and causing both jockeys to be hospitalized for injuries.

What happened to Feasibility has already spawned questions like: Where did that horse which ran smack into Feasibility come from? What if Biazon suffered worse? Who should be blamed for that misfortune?

We hope officials of the Philippine Racing Commission and the Manila Jockey Club got hold of that incident.

If I were Feasibility's owner, I'll demand for a thorough investigation. *Namatay nang walang kalaban laban yung kabayo at kawawa naman yung may-ari!*

Silver Story may win today's Horseman's Cup and sweep the Triple Crown alright but his record will forever be smudged by that highly questionable loss to Sonata exactly a week ago at Santa Ana.

Avid racing fan Howie Basilio noted that if Silver Story makes it, he'll be the only Triple Crown winner who has suffered a setback while in pursuit of that rare sweep.

My Silip Boy said only Jonathan "Unoh" Hernandez knows the answer to that.

A loss atop Silver Story today, my Silip Boy added, would probably haunt the star jockey the rest of his riding career.

Meningitis kills golfer

EDMONTON, Alberta—A strain of meningitis bacteria killed a pro golfer from Zimbabwe, a month before Edmonton plays host to track and field's world championships.

Lewis Chitengwa died Saturday. Tests confirmed the 26-year-old golfer had meningococemia in which the bacteria infected his bloodstream and spread rapidly.

Dr. Gerry Predy, medical officer of health for the Capital Health Authority, said he would not recommend vaccinating the track and field athletes. The championships are Aug. 3-12.

"The risk of this disease is not great for the athletes coming here," he said. "In fact, a lot of them are coming from countries that have much higher rates of disease with this particular germ than we do."

Chitengwa, who attended the University of Virginia on an athletic scholarship, was a rookie on the Canadian PGA Tour.

Predy said he could not confirm Chitengwa picked up the bacteria in Edmonton because he had spent time in Victoria and Surrey, British Columbia, before arriving in the city.

Golf Power on IBC-13

GOLF Power today presents highlights of this year's Volkswagen Singapore Junior Golf Open held at the Tanah Merah Golf and Country Club's Garden Course recently. Nine of the country's top junior players competed in this annual event.

Also featured are golf tips and the regular dosage of golf trivia, definition of golf terms and rules.

Golf Power, now on its sixth year, is aired every Sunday, 3 p.m., on IBC 13, and is hosted by Gerard Cantada. The weekly golf program is produced by Joe Cantada Sports and is sponsored by Cebu Pacific and Outback Steakhouse.

P10,000 staked in billiards tilt

THE NATIONAL Sports Grill, the American sports bar and grill at the Greenbelt Mall, is giving away prizes in the Bees Buckets and Bar Shots billiards break challenge and a chance to join a 9-ball tournament with a top prize of P10,000 cash.

An order of the Beer or a rack of Bar Shots entitles one to join the break challenge. The Beer Bucket is equivalent to one attempt at the break and two for the Bar Shots.

Premium items await those who will pocket any ball in the break. If the 9-ball gets in, bigger prizes such as cell phones and divers' watches, cue sticks and gift certificates, are at stake courtesy of Nokia, Minnesota Fats, Toser Records and Mossimo.

Those who will pocket the 9-ball also get to join a 9-ball billiards tournament on Sept. 15 with the top prize of P10,000 at stake.

Love up by 3; Woods 8 back

LEMONT, Illinois—Davis Love opened a three-shot lead midway through the Western Open on Friday, carding a five-under-par 67 at the Cog Hill Golf Club.

"I am the most excited guy to be here because I haven't been playing much," said Love, who has battled a neck injury for several months. "That's good for something."

The eighth-ranked player in the world has a 36-hole total of 11-under 33 for a three-shot lead over Brandel Chamblee, who is trying to qualify for the British Open.

World number one Tiger Woods followed a 73 with a 68 and is eight shots off the pace at three-under 141. He is coming off his first back-to-back finishes outside the top 10 since

April 1999.

"That's what I needed to shoot to get myself back up there on that board," Woods said. "At least now, I'm somewhat within striking distance going into the weekend."

Love snapped a 63-event title drought in February at Pebble Beach but is playing for only the third time since mid-April. He tied for seventh at the US Open before missing the cut in Hartford two weeks ago.

Chamblee, who is trying to qualify for the British Open, was at eight under 136, a stroke better than Scott Hoch and Frank Nobilo of New Zealand and two ahead of a group of five players, led by Brad Faxon.

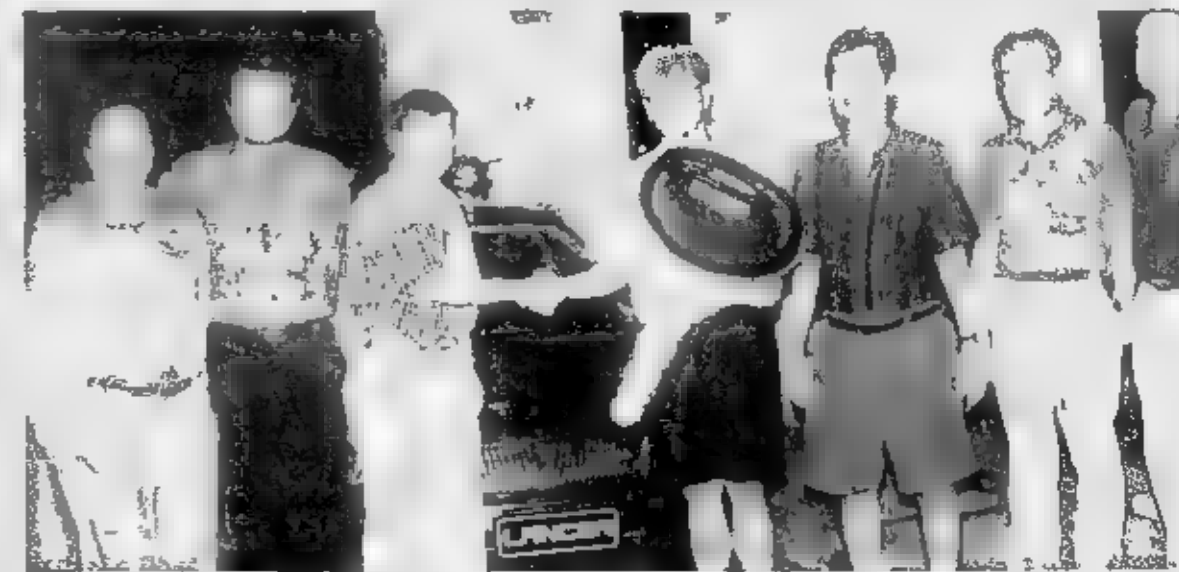
Love is in striking distance again, as he was early in the year. He snapped a

63-event title drought in February at Pebble Beach and had three other top 10 showings before hurting his neck at The Masters.

"I couldn't have hit it any better and then just happened to get hurt the first day and it wasn't really the same," said Love, a Georgia native who missed the cut at Augusta.

A week after The Masters, Love tied for seventh at the Worldcom Classic—an event he has won four times. He then spent two months with his children or just relaxing.

I had spent a lot of time on my boat, cleaning my boat down at the marina," he said. "And one day a guy walked by and said, 'Shouldn't you be paying somebody to do that for you?'" AFP



A GOLFER'S LANCER

Henry Ting (fourth from left) receives the symbolic key to the Mitsubishi Lancer GLS automatic he won as a grand raffle prize during the recent 2001 Manila Southwoods Invitational from Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Inc. senior vice president Yoshizumi Kurata recently. Looking on (from left) are MMPI senior VP for marketing Mel Dizon, Manila Southwoods chair Bob Sobrepereña, Bonifacio Sison of Diamond Motors, MMPI EVP-Treasurer Norio Hada and Mori Dizon of Diamond Motors.

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Houdini/Guts Pleaser 2. Something Silver 3. Spoiler 4. True Mighty
Race 2—1. Spectacular Lady 2. Inner Wheeler 3. El Conador 4. Miguel's P
Race 3—1. Power Pack 2. Free Bee 3. Legend of Gaia
Race 4—1. Lucky Gambit 2. Timber Nectar 3. Shuttle's Pianne 4. Test Run
Race 5—1. Palace Hero 2. Golden Eagle 3. Marea
Race 6—1. Alert One 2. D Pan Traveller 3. Jhelen 4. Merry Weather
Race 7—1. Silver Story 2. Sky Hawk 3. Ibaanda Slew 4. Hammerhead

Race 8—1. Great Revelation 2. Double Check 3. Padron Real 4. Strawberry Joy
Race 9—1. Cue Artist 2. The's My Tiger 3. With Feeling 4. Leading Light
Race 10—1. Black Force 2. Joker's Wild 3. D Gold Hunter 4. Premiere Event
Race 11—1. Foreign Exchange 2. Princely Native 3. Dressed to Impress 4. Typhoon Belle
Race 12—1. Bull Strike 2. Hercules 3. Grace and Fortune 4. Lady Victoria
Race 13—1. Aringkinging 2. Filthy Rich 3. Caton 4. My Prayer

NCAA OPENER

Capus lifts JRU past SSC

BY JUNE NAVARRO

ARIEL Capus displayed nerves of steel in the homestretch as Jose Rizal University scraped past San Sebastian College, 55-54, yesterday at the start of the 77th NCAA season at the capacity-filled Araneta Coliseum.

Undaunted by the wild cheers of the crowd, Capus split his chores with 16 ticks left that allowed the Bombers to escape with their first victory of the season.

The 6-foot-2 swingman's feat wasted the last-quarter stand of the Stags, who turned the one-sided match into a rollercoaster ride early in the latter half.

"What we lacked in height we made up in speed," said JRU head coach Boy De Vera, who is seeking a third consecutive Final Four stint this year.

Gifted with battle-tested veterans, the Bombers pounced on the Stags' lethargic start as they took control of the encounter in the first half.

Ernan Epondulan, Rendell Dela Rca and Capus joined hands in that stretch as the Bombers built a commanding 33-25 halftime advantage.

But after mopping out their plans during the break, the Stags summoned the usual fighting spirit the Recto-based dribblers are known for with Marjuman Ajlad, Christian Coronel and Bernard Mercado at the firing end.

Chester Tolomia and Gilbert Malabanan powered University of Perpetual Help-Rizal to a 61-52 triumph over Mapua Institute of Technology in the second game.

College of St. Benilde opened its title-retention bid with a 71-65 beating of rookie-laden Letran in the other

Scores:
JRU 56—Epondulan 14, Capus 13, Varena 8, Gregorio 8, Dela Rca 3, Lazaro 3, Santos 2, Fajardo 2, Tito 2, Te O.

SSC 54—Ajlad 10, Moore 9, Reguera 9, Uy 8, Coronel 8, Mercado 6, Falcasarios 4, De Leon 2, Macapagal 0, Nadeia 0.

Quarters: 12-6, 33-25, 43-40, 55-54.

Slashers tackle Knights

GAMES TODAY (Cebu City Coliseum)
3:00 p.m.—Laguna vs Cebu (San Juan Gym)
5:30 p.m.—Negros vs San Juan

BY ROY LUARCA

THE MBA First Phase returns today with a pair of explosive games at separate venues.

Negros will have to bear with Andok's San Juan's wrath when they clash at 5:30 p.m. at the San Juan Gym, following the 3 p.m. Cebuana Lhuillier-FedEx Laguna tussle at the Cebu City Coliseum.

San Juan is hurting from a stunning 108-97 beating dealt it by Socsargen Friday night and the Knights are sure to swoop down on the Slashers in their bid to regain the share of the lead.

The Cebuana Lhuillier Gems, on the other hand, are seeking revenge against the Lakers, who dealt them a 100-95 defeat in Sta. Cruz, Laguna, Wednesday night.

It was the second straight defeat for the Gems, who fell to third place in the eight-team field with a 5-3 card.

The Slashers of coach Robert Sison are on top at 7-2 with the Knights right behind at 6-3.



FEDEX Laguna's Michael Garcia slams into Nueva Ecija's Bernard De Gula (15) as he releases a semi-hook during their MBA game on Wednesday. Eyering the ball is Oliver Bunyi (40). Laguna won, 111-100.

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Jazz rookie pleads innocent to rape

FRESNO, California—Utah Jazz rookie DeShawn Stevenson pleaded innocent Friday to the statutory rape of a 14-year-old girl. The girl told police that the 20-year-old Stevenson and two other men took her and a 15-year-old friend to a motel June 6. There, she said, Stevenson and 19-year-old DeShawn Anderson gave the two girls alcohol and had consensual sex with them. AP

Sunday SPORTS

Al S. Mendoza, Editor | Edwin M. Villanueva, Assistant Editor

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by LUCIANO MANGIAT

GOLF: PGA Advil Western Open, Third Round at 9:30 a.m. on Star Sports
GolfGlobe 2001 at 5:30 p.m. on Star Sports
PGA Jamie Farr Kroger Classic, Third Round at 8 p.m. (7) on ESPN

FINAL FOUR RACE

Red Bull faces SLR; Aces try to end skid

STANDINGS	W	L
SMB	5	5
Purefoods	4	4
Red Bull	4	4
Alaska	4	4
S.R.	4	4
Ginebra	3	4
Mobiline	3	4
Pop Cola	2	5
Tanduay	2	5
Shell	1	6

GAMES TODAY (Araneta Coliseum)
4:15 p.m. — Alaska vs Shell
6:30 p.m. — SLR vs Red Bull

By MARC ANTHONY REYES

STA. Lucia Realty and Bating Red Bull join the mad rush to the Final Four even as Alaska Milk tries to arrest a three-game losing streak against ejected Shell today in the PBA Commissioner's Cup at the Araneta Coliseum.

Both the Realtors and the Thunder are protecting winning runs that could propel them to the elite twice-to-beat ranks in the quarterfinals where at least six victories are required.

If the Thunder make it in the 6:30 p.m. match, they can also crowd idle leaders San Miguel, Beer and Purefoods on top of the standings which is a testament to the team's depth and maturity.

"I think we are fast becoming a mature team," said Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao. "Now we have started to realize our potential. Some teams don't realize how deep our bench is."

That posed a big problem to other teams like San Miguel and Shell, since Red Bull has the tallest lineup in the league, led by import Antonio Lang and Devonn Harp, aside from having strong second stringers in all positions.

But Sta. Lucia can challenge Red Bull's height and even impose its three-game winning run brought about by the entry of Damian Owens, whose intensity rubs on his teammates, especially

Dennis Espino, who was responsible for the Realtors' last two wins.

The Realtors, who have beaten Ginebra, SMB and Shell, are also hoping they could repeat their successful run in this conference last year when they made the finals for the first time.

In the first game, the Aces need to fix things up against the Turbochargers, who are just playing the spoiler's role in the 4:15 p.m. encounter.

Alaska, which zoomed to the leadership with a 4-0 start, has lost three in a row in an alarming skid that started with a shocking 87-81 loss to highly regarded Tanduay Gold.



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Killed by printing press power

EDWIN P. BENALADA, 25, was electrocuted Friday morning when he tripped on a live wire at the Robble Stylographic Printing Press on JP Rizal Street in Quezon City where he worked. Police were not able to examine the body because Benalada's sister Anal and printing press owner Cristina Belmonte decided not to report the accident to authorities.

Philip C. Tuberza

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Pawnshop money stolen

LENNY Garcia, 21, an employee of the Villanica Pawnshop in Sta. Ana, Manila, yesterday afternoon lost to two armed men P51,000 in pawnshop money that she had just withdrawn from a bank. She said they grabbed her bag and drove away on board a white Toyota L-300 van (CMD-384).

Jerome Aning

Make ROTC optional—Reyes

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

COLLEGE students clamoring for reforms in the controversy-ridden Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program yesterday found an unlikely ally in Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes.

Reyes yesterday told a news forum that he is amenable to changes in the ROTC program, even to the point of making the training "op-

tional."

"I am amenable to making it optional in terms of where they want to go," Reyes told reporters during the weekly news forum at the Sulo Hotel in Quezon City.

He said he is thinking of allowing cadets to choose the civil welfare service (CWS) or law enforcement service (LES) if they do not want to undergo military training.

"Offhand, my position is that we

really have to make adjustments in the program to make it responsive to the changed situation," he said. "Definitely, the status quo is out of the question."

But these changes might not be implemented soon because Congress would have to amend the ROTC law first.

Government agencies will also need time to prepare for these proposed reforms, Reyes added.

The growing clamor for the abolition of ROTC was triggered by the murder in March of University of Sto. Tomas ROTC cadet and engineering student Mark Welson Chua. The young man had exposed allegedly rampant corruption in the ROTC before he was killed.

His body was found wrapped in a carpet and floating in the Pasig River. His head was also wrapped in packing tape and his arms and feet

were bound.

The defense establishment is also reviewing the ROTC program because of the big number of college students enrolled in the program.

Reyes said initial estimates show that the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) reserve corps needs about 25,000 new members annually. At present, the ROTC is training

MAKE ROTC/A18

Another Japanese found dead

BY ALCUIN PAPA

POLICE are puzzled over the death of a Japanese inside a Pasay City motel on Friday.

Police said Araki Yohei, 25, of Kokushima, Japan was found hanging in the bathroom of Room 55 of the Vinta Lodge at the corner of A. Luna and Villarent streets.

The victim's female companion, Uhelona Oriendo of 3710 Bautista St., Pelarcon, Makati City, was found by roomboys in a state of shock and was taken to the Pasay City General Hospital, police said.

Based on the initial investigation by PO3 Mike Manarang of the Pasay City Police Criminal Investigation Division, Yohei and Oriendo checked into the motel at 1:08 p.m. Friday.

At 7:30 p.m., one of the motel roomboys heard a female's cries and moans coming from inside Room 55. The roomboy knocked on the door but no one answered and the cries and moans continued, police said.

The roomboy informed his supervisor, who decided to open the room with a duplicate key.

They found Oriendo crying in one corner. The motel employees tried to talk to the woman and asked her why she was crying, but she only continued to sob.

Upon inspection of the shower room, they found the Japanese

ANOTHER/A18



EDWIN BACASMAS

FAULT OF 'FERIA'

Taking matters into their own hands, residents of a community along the railroad tracks in Navotas remove debris that the flood had left on their main street following the fury of typhoon "Feria" last week.

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SHOULDER LABEL

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FAKE

ALUMINUM CAP
NO RED RING

NO SHOULDER
LABEL

WRONG "IMPORTED"
SYMBOL

Youth arrested for raping epileptic girl

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

MALABON police arrested a vendor for allegedly raping a 14-year-old girl with epilepsy.

Gilbert Mullen, 20, of Samlet Compound, Tugatog, Malabon is now behind bars for abusing the girl in his rented room, said PO1 Reynaldo Gabutin of the Malabon police.

On Tuesday, the victim visited a friend about 3:30 p.m. and stayed in a room beside Mullen's, Gabutin said. But the girl did not find her friend in the room, instead she met the suspect who allegedly told her that her friend was not home.

The suspect befriended the victim and convinced her to go with him to his room, Gabutin said.

When the girl stepped into his room, Mullen immediately locked the door, Gabutin added.

He said the suspect then proceeded to rape the girl.

The victim told investigators she tried to resist, but he was too strong for her and threatened to kill her if she continued to resist.

Mullen let her go after he consummated his lust, but not before reminding the girl that he would be watching her and warned her not to tell anyone of what happened, the girl told the police.

But the girl, who was not afraid of Mullen, told her cousin who, in turn, told her mother about the rape.

The victim's mother confronted the suspect the next day, but Mullen denied he did anything to the girl.

The suspect even accompanied mother and daughter to the MCU hospital, for a medico-legal examination.

Later, Mullen accompanied the girl to the police station where the suspect was arrested on the spot when the medico-legal report arrived and showed that the victim was indeed raped.

Man with grenade nabbed near oil depot

BY JEROME ANING

THE WESTERN Police District yesterday tightened security around the oil depot in Pandacan, Manila after a man was caught with a gun, a grenade, hunting knife and a soldier's uniform near the area before dawn.

When policemen accosted him at 2:30

a.m. on Beata Street, Nelson Sipalay, 36, a resident of 10 Sta. Clara St., Kapitolyo, Pasig City, claimed he was a security guard.

Beata is parallel to Jesus Street, where the fuel oil storage bases of the country's three big oil firms are located.

Investigator SPO1 Antonio Ramos of WPD Station 10 said the patrolling

policemen became suspicious when they saw a large hunting knife hanging from Sipalay's waist.

Sipalay was also carrying a green travelling bag and a box with holes that was holding a fighting cock.

When he was accosted, Sipalay reportedly reached out behind him as if he would pull out something. Policemen

grabbed him and found him holding an improvised gun that resembled a Magnum 357.

The policemen searched the suspect's bag and found an MK2 fragmentation grenade as well as fatigue shorts and a shirt. There were also about a dozen ID cards bearing the suspect's pictures but with different names.

Police said the suspect could be plotting to sabotage the oil depot or he was a member of a robbery syndicate returning to his hideout.

Sipalay is facing charges of illegal possession of firearms and explosives, illegal possession of a deadly weapon and usurpation of authority. He is detained at WPD Station 10 headquarters.

Mechanic killed over videoke bar GRO

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

FURIOUS because their favorite bar girl was not around to entertain them, two men took their rage out on an unsuspecting auto mechanic and shot him dead inside a videoke bar in Quezon City.

Ernan O. Buban, 25, of Gen. Luis Street, Novallches Proper, Novallches, Quezon City, was shot dead about

midnight yesterday for being at the wrong place at the wrong time, said PO2 Pedro Miranda, of the Central Police District's Criminal Investigation Unit.

Buban was having a drink with Jojit Santos at the R and E Videoke bar on Gen. Luis Street, Novallches Proper, when the two suspects walked in and ordered beer about 1:30

a.m., Miranda said.

The two unidentified men allegedly asked for a certain guest relations officer, but were told the woman was not available, police said.

The suspects became upset when they heard this. They left in a huff, leaving behind their beer, Miranda said. But before they left the bar, they saw Buban staring at them.

This only fueled their anger until one of them pulled out a handgun of unknown caliber and shot Buban on the head and shoulder, Miranda said.

The victim was taken to the Divine Heart Clinic where he died at 1:45 a.m., Miranda said.

Buban's remains were taken to the Philippine National Police Crime Laboratory for autopsy.

Ex-soldiers, cops behind RCBC robbery, says WPD

BY JEROME ANING

A WESTERN Police District official yesterday said a group of former soldiers and policemen were responsible for robbing the Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. branch in Paco, Manila Friday afternoon.

The official, who asked not to be named, said the robbers carried out the raid with "speed and expertise" that would come from specialized military training.

He said the robbery resembled "a commando strike at a headquarters-type installation," noting that the suspects approached without arousing the suspicion of the bank guards whom they quickly neutralized.

Police reports said it only took three minutes for the robbers to disarm the two bank guards, take the money from the tellers' drawers and flee on board their gray Mitsubishi Adventure in the direction of Quirino Avenue.

A teller told investigators she heard one of the robbers say "Lagi, lagi" which means "put it here, put it here" in Hiligaynon and Cebuano.

The robbers took with them P50,000 cash, the cell phones of two employees and the .38-caliber pistol and 12-gauge shotgun of the guards.

'Retrouvaille' Teener being pursued by holdup man drowns

BY JEROME ANING

A YOUNG man drowned after jumping into a creek to escape a holdup man who was running after him in Sampaloc, Manila on Friday morning.

The body of Mervin Ocampo, of 61-C M. de la Fuente St., Sampaloc, was found floating in a creek at the back of a Chowking restaurant on J.P. Laurel Street at 9:45 a.m. yesterday.

Plumber Romeo de Castro, 51, said that on Friday morning, he saw Ocampo jumping into the creek near Sta. Teresita Street, about 200 meters from the place where the body was later found.

De Castro said Ocampo was painting and appeared to be running from a pursuer.

Investigator SPO2 Adios de Quiros said he learned from Ocampo's relatives that the youth was carrying with him P7,000 in cash, which his mother had sent

him from Saudi Arabia where she works. No sign of external injury was found on Ocampo's body, leading police to theorize that he drowned.

Also on Friday, a dead man's body was found floating off Isla Puting Bato in Tondo, Manila, police said.

SPO3 Ernesto Jose Jr. said he is looking into reports that the victim might have been a newly hired crew member of a barge that sank off the Manila International Container Port on Isla Puting Bato last Thursday when strong winds brought by Typhoon Faria battered the harbor.

An unidentified crewmember was reported missing when he failed to return to work after the typhoon, police said.

The victim was described as between 40 and 45 years old, 5-foot-5, medium-built, balding and wearing a black tank shirt and white briefs.

Luisa Baite, council member of

Another ...

(From page A17)

hanging by a leather belt. The hotel workers called police.

Police suspect the two might have quarreled before Yohai hanged himself. But investigators still could not talk to Quiendo.

The body was taken to the National Bureau of Investigation for autopsy.

Police said they have not ruled out that the Japanese was a victim of foul play.

Lions roar support for Mehan...

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, July 8, 2001
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ze 6:10-14
Rejoice for Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you who love her. Be glad with her, rejoice with her, all you who were in grief over her, that you may suck of the milk from her comforting breasts, that you may drink deeply from the abundance of her glory.

For this is what Yahweh says: I will send her peace, overflowing like a river, and the nations' wealth, rushing like a torrent towards her.

And you will be nursed and carried in her arms and fondled upon her lap. As a son comforted by his mother, so will I comfort you. At the sight of this, your heart will rejoice; like grass, your bones will flourish. For it shall be known that Yahweh's hand is with his servant, but his fury is upon his enemy.

2nd Reading: Gal 1:14-18
For me, I do not wish to take pride in anything except in the cross of Christ Jesus our Lord. Through him the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.

Let us no longer speak of the circumcised and of non-Jews, but of a new creation. Let those who live according to this rule receive peace and mercy; they are the Israel of God! Let no one trouble me any longer: for my part, I bear in my body the marks of Jesus.

May the grace of Christ Jesus our Lord be with your spirit brothers and sisters. Amen.

Gospel: Lk 10:1-12, 17-20

The Lord appointed seventy-two other disciples and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place, where he himself was to go. And he said to them, "The harvest is rich, but the workers are few. So you must ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers to his harvest. Courage! I am sending you like lambs among wolves. Set off without purse or bag or sandals; and do not stop at the homes of those you know."

Whatever house you enter, first bless them saying, 'Peace to this house.' If a friend of peace lives there, the peace shall rest upon that person. But if not, the blessing will return to you. Stay in that house eating and drinking at their table, for the worker deserves to be paid. Do not move from house to house.

When they welcome you in any town, eat what they offer you. Heal the sick who are there and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has drawn near to you.'

But in any town where you are not welcome, go to the marketplace and proclaim: 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off and leave with you. But know and be sure that the kingdom of God has come to you.' I tell you that on the Judgment Day it will be better for Sodom than for this town.

The seventy-two disciples returned full of joy. They said, "Lord, even the demons obeyed us when we called on your name." Then Jesus replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. You see, I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the Enemy, so that nothing will harm you. Nevertheless, don't rejoice because the evil spirits submit to you, rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven."

Commentary

For Luke it is not only the twelve apostles who are sent on mission, but also seventy other disciples. The word seventy stands, according to an old Jewish tradition, for all the descendants of Jacob who went to Egypt, and for the number of elders who helped Moses in his task of guiding the people of God to freedom. The Gospel of Luke stresses the mission of every Christian and the joy that this mission gives. Luke invites every Christian to participate, in his or her own typical way, in the mission of the Church. Mission adds new dimensions to life and opens up new perspectives. It deepens our intimacy with God and with the people with whom Christians are journeying.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the mission you have entrusted to each of us. Grant that we may answer this call with faith and generosity.

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(From page A17)

They said construction of a new campus would run the Mehan Garden as a historical and cultural site. The garden was established in 1858 as the Jardin Botanique, the first zoological and botanical garden in the city.

The CCM is presently located at the former Philippine National Bank building on Escolta Street in Sta. Cruz. The buildings in total disrepair and city hall officials want to set up a new campus on one-third of the 24,000-square-meter park.

Maceda said it would be "difficult and counterproductive to continue maintaining Mehan as it is without the benefit of human activity, such as that provided by a learning institution."

"It would be akin to pouring money into a bottomless pit," he said. It is also high time that CCM students get what they deserve—a truly decent campus."

Make...

(From page A17)

about 250,000 cadets, or 10 times more than the needed number of new reservists every year.

Reyes said the AFP modernization program could only finance a reserve force of about 400,000 men. Anything more than that would be a financial burden.

"We need 400,000 men (but) we produce more than that," he said. "So we don't really need to train all those 250,000 because we'll need more money (for the extras)."

He explained that in case of a general mobilization for war, the government might not have enough money to clothe and arm the extra reservists.

He said the AFP is having problems in deciding whether to send its quality officers to fight the country's insurgent problem or to assign them to the ROTC program.

He said the future ROTC cadets would be volunteers and they would get all the necessary support from the armed forces.

He said the projected new ROTC program would have incentives to attract college students, but the changes might not be implemented immediately.

He said a transition period is also needed because the Commission on Higher Education and the interior and social welfare departments might not be ready for the changes.

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

CRIMINAL LAW (AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES)—Conspiracy—Well-settled is the rule that "conspiracy exists when two or more persons come to an agreement concerning the commission of a felony and decide to commit it. The agreement to commit a crime may be deduced from the mode and manner of the commission of the offense or inferred from the acts that point to joint purpose and design, concerted action and community of interest." It is sufficient that at the time of the aggression, all the accused manifested by their acts, a common intent or desire to attack so that the act of one accused becomes the act of all. In the present case, unity of design or objective can easily be inferred from the concerted acts of the three accused. Thus, having shown that the three accused were in conspiracy thru their concerted acts, there is collective criminal responsibility, since "all the conspirators are liable as principals regardless of the extent and character of their participation, because the act of one is the act of all." (Citations omitted.) [Justice Quinsambing, Second Division, People v. Baitar, Jr., G.R. No. 125306, December 11, 2000]

DIGEST BY R.D. YERA

SIMULA BUKAS NG GABI

DOS POR DOS

NG GMA

DALAWANG ANIME!
DALAWANG DRAMA!

6:00 SAKSI



6:30

Little W



7:00

DRAGONBALL Z
ALL NEW EPISODES



7:30

Ikaw Lang
Ang Mamahalin



8:00

Monica
Brava
THE PREMIERE

LUNES HANGGANG BIERNES SA GMA

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

New strategies for an ailing movie industry

WE were with some film people last week and we asked them why local movies are in such dire straits these days, and what can be done to get the film industry out of the rut it's in.

At first, we heard the usual answers, like high taxes, unfair competition from Hollywood blockbusters, unenlightened censorship and rising production costs. These problems should indeed be addressed, but is there anything else?

Finally, we got some fresh inputs that could shed new light on the industry's woes, and on some possible remedies:

One insight was that local movies are not doing well because most producers don't seem to realize that the configuration of viewers of local movies has changed.

In the past, Filipino films appealed mostly to the *bakya* or *masa* crowd, made up chiefly of the C-D-E economic sectors of the country. But movie admission prices have gone up so much of late (from a low of P40 to a high of P120) that the poor can no longer afford to go to the movies.

So, Filipino films have to compete more squarely with Hollywood productions for the patronage of A-B-C sector viewers, who

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre



can afford the now expensive movie ticket prices. Trouble is, some local film producers haven't bothered to upgrade their products and marketing practices to meet the expectations of this new majority audience.

This shift has been intensified by the rise of the mall-based cineplexes, which keep adding theaters each year, while traditional moviehouses close shop due to lack of audience.

The malls' cineplexes have a distinct advantage because of the variety of movies they offer, and because they make moviegoing only a part of a total entertainment or *pasalyan* package, along with eating, shopping—and free centralized airconditioning.

More: local producers promote their films for only about two weeks prior to their opening date. They should learn from distributors of Hollywood movies, who show trailers of their films months before they open. This creates much greater aware-

ness and anticipation on viewers' part.

Why don't our producers do this? Because they finish shooting their movies only a few weeks before they have to be shown, so their productions' trailers are often done in a rush or finished late.

To achieve better promotions and marketing, therefore, production schedules have to be drastically modified, so films can be put in the can six months before their

playdates. That way, trailers of local movies can be run in theaters months before the films open their run.

Can local producers do this? Some of them will balk at the suggestion because, if a film is completed months before its playdate, the money invested in it is seen to be "natutulog" (sleeping).

Only producers who don't have a short-term, quickie view of the movie business will agree to postpone their productions' "earning" period, in the hope of making even more money when the movies are eventually shown.

Finally, most of a movie's promotions and publicity budget these days is spent on

TV spots, because it is felt that television is so popular and high-impact that it gives the best value for money.

But TV spots have become so expensive that some movie people feel that their advantage has been neutralized, since their entire ad budget can pay for only a few TV spots.

That's why some of them urge a rethinking of movie advertising, with a greater stress on print promotions, billboards and radio.

They hope that, with these and other innovations, adjustments and updates, Filipino films can compete more aggressively with the foreign blockbusters that have been giving them a beating at the tills for many months now.

Anne Heche's ex sells house they used to share

LOS ANGELES—Comedian and actress Ellen DeGeneres will star in a new comedy this fall about an Internet exec who exchanges big city stress for her quiet hometown.

But the stress of her new show has caused her to sell the quiet home she once shared with actress Anne Heche north of here, the Los Angeles Times reports.

DeGeneres, 43, will live full-time in her Hollywood Hills home.

The former star of "Ellen" got \$2.7 million for the four-bedroom home in Ojai, 97 kilometers northwest of Los Angeles, which was once used in a photo layout with Martha Stewart, the Times said.

DeGeneres has been spending less time there because of her plans to host this year's Sept. 16 Emmy Awards, and "The Ellen Show," her new weekly TV comedy.

Heche, 32, moved out of both homes last fall after the couple broke up in August. She is now engaged to cameraman Coleman Lafoon, 27.

Love Hewitt to star with Jackie Chan

LOS ANGELES—Jennifer Love Hewitt is in talks to star with Jackie Chan in DreamWorks action-comedy "The Tuxedo," the Hollywood Reporter said Tuesday.

Hewitt would play a secret agent paired with a bumbling spy (Chan) who has invented a tuxedo that helps him fight the bad guys, the trade journal said.

The movie is set to start shooting in Toronto in September.

Warner sued over Sly movie

LOS ANGELES—An independent film company claims Sylvester Stallone is trying to pass them on the inside with "Driven," his new movie, according to Zap2it.com.

Pacific Rim Partners—which released a 1996 movie called "Driven"—is suing Warner Brothers and Franchise Pictures, claiming that Sly's movie of the same name is treading on its turf, the entertainment website says.

But they may find it hard to prove their case. According to the Internet film database (IMDb.com), there already are six movies called "Driven," including the two at issue.

Film titles are not copyrightable under US law. "It's not at all unusual for various films to have the exact same title, and the majority of the time, permission is neither sought nor required," Franchise lawyer Erick Kwak told Zap2it.com.

Other common titles include "The Patriot" (seven films), and "Gladiator," "Heaven Can Wait" and "Road House" (two films each). AFP

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TOMB RAIDER - P 13 11:30, 1:40, 3:50, 6:00, 8:10, 10:20		SWORD FISH - R 18 11:30, 1:40, 3:50, 6:00, 8:10, 10:20

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In the year 2066, a meteor crashes Earth, unleashing millions of destructive alien creatures. The beautiful Dr. Aki Ross is the planet's hope to overpower the alien invaders.

Infected with an alien spirit, Aki holds the key to defeating the creatures, as she scours the earth to collect the eight spirits that will save the planet, and pursues her final fantasy.

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From the Critically Acclaimed Director of "CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON"

RIDE WITH THE DEVIL
A Film by ANG LEE

IN A NO-MAN'S LAND BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH, YOU DIDN'T FIGHT FOR THE BLUE OR THE GRAY... YOU FOUGHT FOR YOUR FRIENDS AND YOUR FAMILY.

SKEET ULRICH TOBEY MAGUIRE JEFFREY WRIGHT

Ang Lee ("The Ice Storm," "Broke and Beautiful" & "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon") once again takes audiences on a journey to a different time and place, and into his characters' internal conflicts. A cast of rising young stars portrays young Americans, striving to define themselves and the country they had always called home, amidst national turmoil. The screenplay for Ride with the Devil is adapted by Lee's longtime collaborator James Schamus from Daniel Woodrell's novel *Wine to Live On*.

The SMART zed plus SIM card—personalization at its best!

June 17, 2001 Another milestone has been marked by cellular leader SMART Communications. Today,

SMART zed unleashes a new technology that's set to change the way its subscribers use their cellphones.

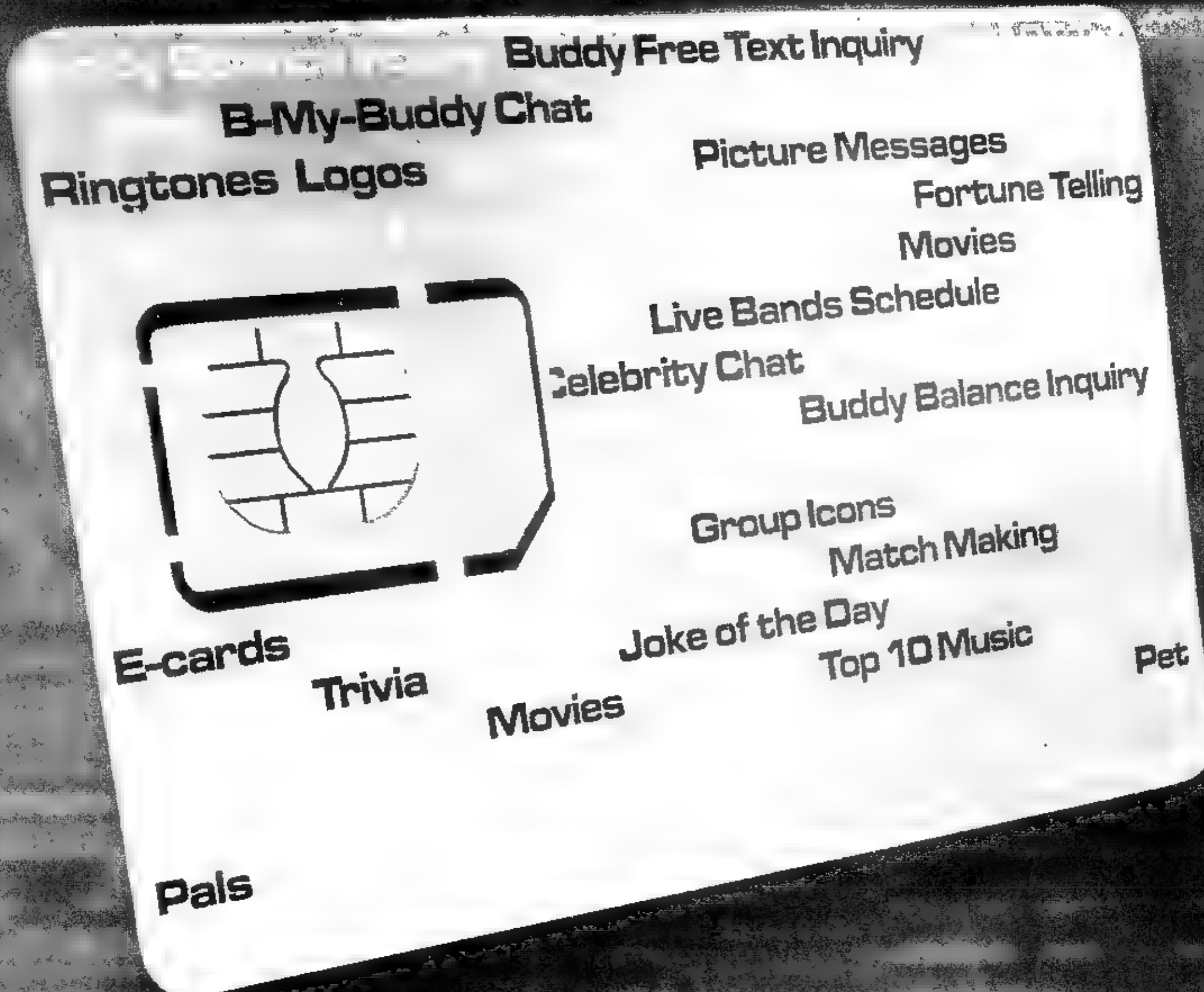
Introducing the SMART zed plus SIM card—the first microbrowser technology SIM in the country.

SMART zed subscribers can now enjoy the endless possibilities offered by the new SMART zed plus SIM Cards, 64K and 32K. The new SIM card is a powered-up version of the current SMART zed SIM. It empowers the user to create his own SMART zed menu. Users can now

choose only the services that they want. They simply activate the services that they choose and leave out the ones that they don't need. No more scrolling down a long and tedious list of services. Users can choose from a wide array of services catering to their every need: My SMART, My Favorites, Mail, Chat, News, Traffic, Entertainment, Group Text, Today, Travel, Search, My Shop and a whole lot more.

The SMART zed plus is a menu-driven SIM which means users can access the services just by browsing and clicking. They don't have to memorize keywords, giving them the power to personalize their menu on their cellphones.

The new SMART zed plus SIM card – simply amazing!



SMART zed *plus* 32K
all the tricks you want...
...just pick the ones you need!

The SMART zed plus 32K is the Microbrowser SIM card that gives you the power to create a menu of your preferred SMART zed services. Now you can choose only the services you want and hide the ones you don't. Just click and browse—no more memorization of keywords. And you can do it all by yourself. Anytime, anywhere! Living the life you want just got faster and easier with the amazing SMART zed plus!

Enjoy personalization at its best! Get your SMART zed plus 32K SIM now!

SMART zed plus—your services, your time, your choice.



SMART
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32K P990.00



The SMART zed plus SIM card—it's easy as 1-2-3!

Creating your own personal menu with the new SMART zed plus is really easy. You can choose only the services that you want to appear in your personal menu and hide the ones that you don't. SMART zed plus is also a menu-driven SIM which means you only have to click and browse to get the services you want. No more keyword memorization.

Just click on the SMART zed menu and choose PERSONALIZE. Click on ACTIVATE and you will see the services currently available. Click on the services you want to appear in your personal menu, and your menu will be updated in no time! No more scrolling down a long and tedious list of services. Now, you're on your way to a whole new cellphone

experience. Just repeat the steps to add more services to your cellphone.

SMART zed plus is as versatile as you are. Not only can you add the services you want, you can also hide the services that you no longer need. Just click on PERSONALIZE on your SMART zed menu. Click on DEACTIVATE and choose the

services you want to hide in your personal menu. Need to take out more than one service? Just repeat the steps until you complete your list of preferred services

Create your own kind of fun now with new SMART zed plus. Simply amazing!



SMART zed *plus* 64K

all the tools you want...
...just use the ones you need!



The SMART zed plus 64K is a Microbrowser SIM Card that gives you control over the SMART zed services you want and the ones you don't. You get everything you want in your personalized menu. And you can do it all by yourself. Whenever, wherever. Just click and browse and say goodbye to keyword memorization. The bigger phonebook capacity and more room for text messages give you the winning edge when you need it.

Just another amazing way SMART zed makes living the life you choose easier.

Make the new SMART zed plus work in your favor! Get your SMART zed plus 64K SIM now!

SMART zed plus—your services, your time, your choice.

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ENTERTAINMENT

SUNDAY
JULY 8, 2001



Elton John raises \$1M for charity

LONDON — Elton John said Friday that his annual celebrity-studded house party raised \$1.4 million for an AIDS charity.

One anonymous guest at the White Tie and Tiara Ball held Thursday at John's mansion in Windsor, west of London, donated \$420,000 to the Elton John AIDS Foundation.

An auction raised another \$280,000, with Oscar-winning actor Kevin Spacey paying \$120,000 for a classic Mini Cooper car.

Other guests at the fete included actress Kate Winslet, models Naomi Campbell and Elle Macpherson, the Duchess of York and soccer star David Beckham and his wife, Spice Girl Victoria Beckham.

"I am completely bowled over at the amount raised and would like to thank everyone for making this possible," John said.

"It was a great party and it's so fantastic to know that the money raised has been already committed to international projects helping people affected by HIV and AIDS," AP.

Woody Allen takes clarinet on the road

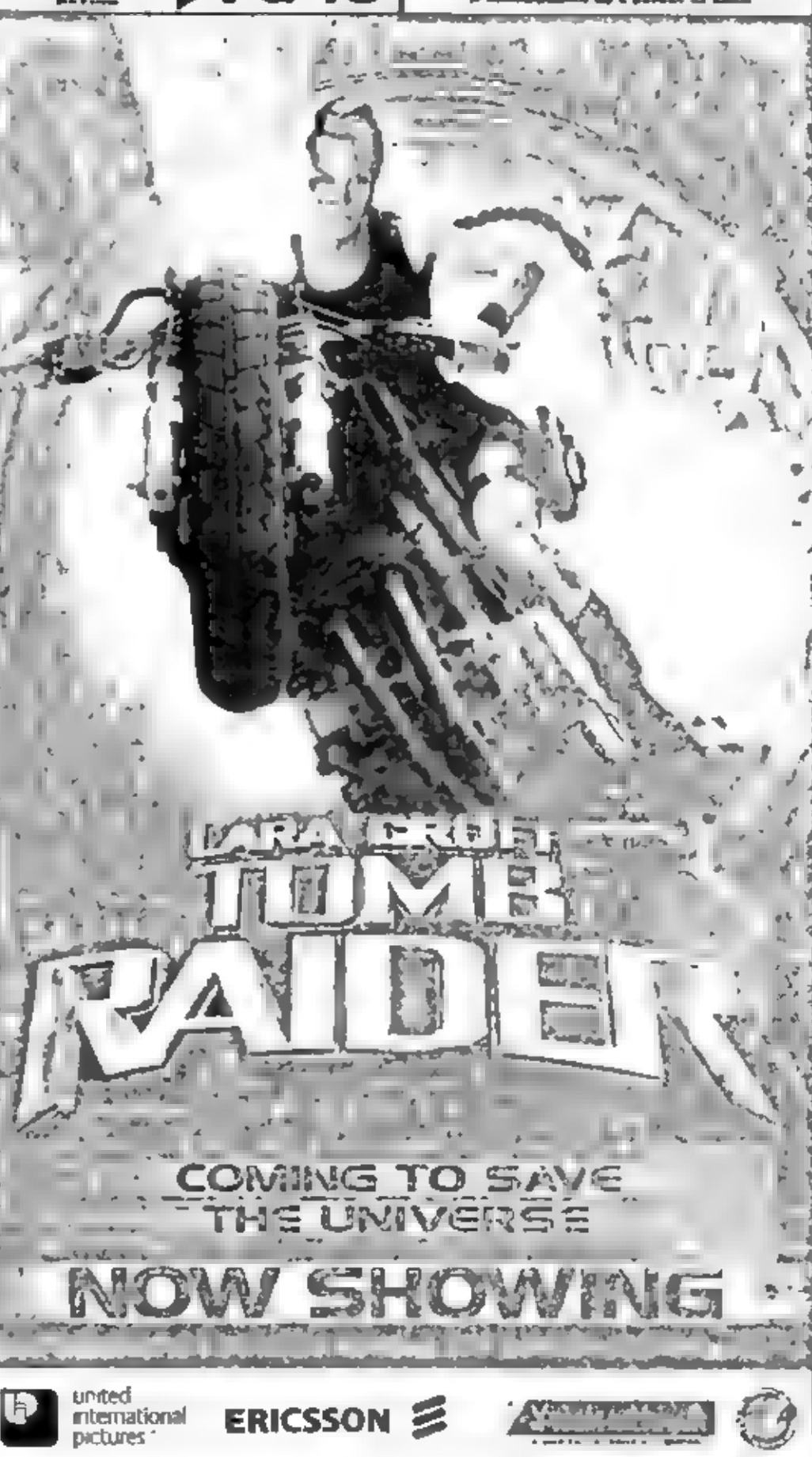
NEW YORK — Neurotic New York filmmaker Woody Allen is taking his regular Monday-night jam session at the Carlyle Hotel on the road to three western US cities to promote his latest film, "The Curse of the Jade Scorpion."

Allen, an avid clarinet player, will perform with his regular band in Seattle, Los Angeles and San Francisco the first week in August, the weekly Variety said.

As he has done often in his more than 30 films, Allen wrote, directed and starred in "The Curse of the Jade Scorpion," a homage to the noir comedies of the 1940s also featuring Dan Aykroyd, Helen Hunt and Charlize Theron. The story about a jewel heist gone wrong will premiere in US theaters in August. AFP

MTRCB PG-13

Children below 13 yrs. old will only be admitted if accompanied by a parent or adult



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GETS BETTER

MORGAN FREEMAN MONICA POTTER

along came a spider

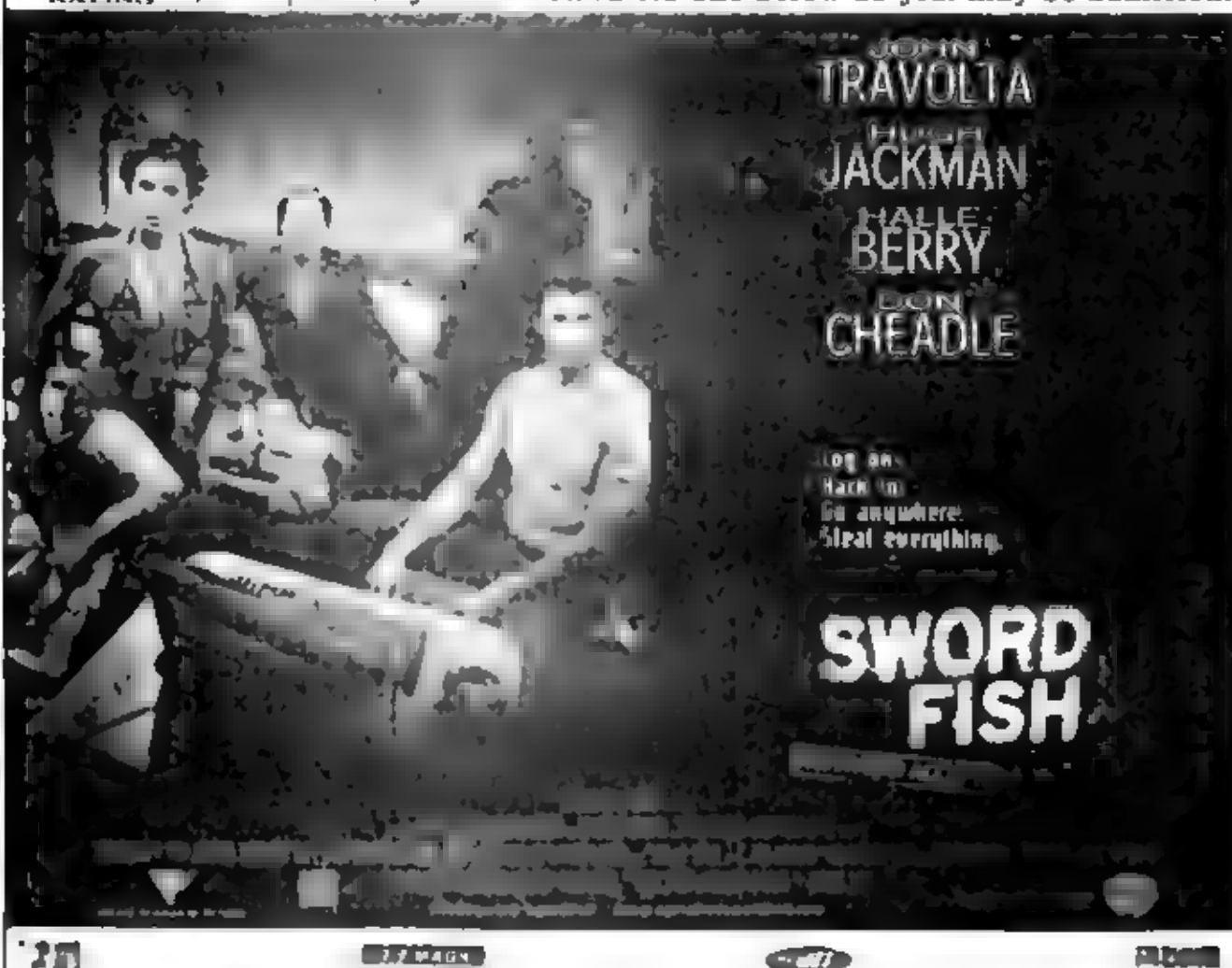
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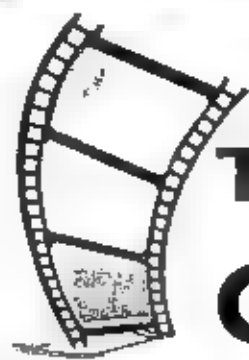


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Get ready with Smart's most exciting group yet: The Smart Cinema Club. Sign up from July 8 to 17, 2001 and you could be among the 300 registrants to watch the Jurassic Park III premiere on July 22, 2001. What's more, Smart Cinema Club members will be able to enjoy exclusive logos, graphics, and games as well as other chances to watch future showings of the hottest upcoming movies. So join now, and experience the lights, camera, action of this amazing club today.



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Official Jurassic Park III Graphics

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To invite friends to join, key in **INVITE** <your friends' numbers> and send to 239. You can invite up to 3 friends at one time.

To receive more information on different commands, key in **HELP** <command> and send to 239.

OPERATOR LOGOS:

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To play the JP3 game, key in **PLAY JP** and send to 239.

*Available on selected Nokia handsets only.

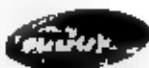
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This service is available through:



- From July 8-17, 2001, all Smart Gold and Buddy subscribers registered with the Smart Cinema Club are eligible to win free premiere tickets to Jurassic Park III to be shown on July 22, 2001.
- Draw date will be on July 18, 2001. Winners will be notified by text message and a call to their registered mobile number.
- Winners can claim their prize at ODB Phils., 10/F Legaspi Subos, Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City starting July 18, 2001. Or at the Smart Cinema Club Booth at the Robinsons Galleria Cinema on July 22, 2001.
- Promo is for the Greater Metro Manila area only.

See flyers for details.

All text messages will be charged P2.50 each. Logos, graphics, and picture messages are P12.00 each. For more info, call your Smart Customer Care Hotline at 888-1111 or *888 on your cell phone.

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He refused to work with an MNC but ended up making history in one

BY MARGIE QUIMPO-ESPINO

MULTINATIONAL companies did not attract him and for years he worked in Filipino firms. But as fate would have it, he became the first Filipino to head the finance group of one of the biggest multinational firms in the country.

After finishing Economics at the Ateneo de Manila in 1965, Oscar S. Reyes opted to accept a P195-a-month job at the Private Development Corp., a company headed by former Finance Secretary Vicente Jayme, where he worked as a research assistant.

It was a surprising move considering that multinational firms were willing to pay him as much as P450 a month.

At that time his options were Citibank, Procter & Gamble, PRC (now Unilever) or Hong Kong Shanghai Banking Corp.

"People could not understand why I chose PDCP. But I was not keen on joining an MNC. I felt I wanted to join a Filipino organization. MNCs did not attract me because I felt they were too big, had less job opportunities because work was compartmentalized—you could get lost in the job," he says.

"I chose PDCP because it was the only private development financial institution at that time. It was a conduit for multilateral

HE/B2



REYES' first salary was P115 for 15 days work.

REYES rejected the P450/month offer of MNCs for a lower paying job with a Filipino firm.



ANDANAR is intent on making it big as a businessman

Broadcaster delivers more than the news, fixes vehicles too

BY LEAH SALTERIO

THERE'S a side of Martin Andanar, that bespectacled guy doing the news on GMA's early morning program "Unang Hirit," not too many people get to see.

When he's not facing the cameras Martin is at work in his auto repair shop in Las Piñas.

The 26-year-old broadcaster put up Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist nearly two years ago, but recently decided to expand the business so it can accommodate more clients.

Genspeed traces its beginnings in the garage of Martin's house in Las Piñas. The business took off quite fortuitously after Martin spray-painted his car red.

"My wife liked it," he grants. "When we started, we only had a handful of cars to repair, but when word got around that we don't really charge too much for repairs, we attracted more clients."

When cars started cramming Andanar's garage, he soon realized he had to find a bigger place for his growing clientele.

"When I saw that the business was doing well, I saw the need to move forward and expand," Martin relates.

Last March, he found a 1,000-square-meter prime lot along the Friendship Route in Manuyo II, Las Piñas. Martin also upgraded his equipment.

The new site for Genspeed was formally inaugurated last June 16. Martin is aware that with the big players in the multibillion-peso automotive industry, he can be easily edged out. But he remains unfazed by competition.

"In less than two years of operation, Genspeed has managed to attract loyal customers who keep coming back to us for car maintenance and repair. I am confident that with our bigger area, we can add more customers to our list," he says.

Martin boasts of his workforce of 20 young mechanics who are energetic and open to new ideas. He is particularly proud of his shop's general manager, Edward Martin, and computer programmer Miguel Panganiban.

"They both need little guidance from me and they are very trustworthy," he says.

Martin knows that workers' exploitation is rampant in the blue-collar business. "That's what I've been trying to avoid," he says. "As the boss, I make sure they get paid according to the law and on time."

However, aside from treating them well, Martin allows his employees to grow. "I trust them and I always give them the chance to talk if they have problems with work or if they don't like what they're doing."

Thankfully, Martin has yet to encounter any major headaches from his workers.

"I guess if you treat them fairly, they will not give you troubles," he says. "Save for a few trivial problems, I am really lucky with my workers. I'd like to make this job profitable, productive and meaningful for them."

BROADCASTER/B2



COME ON JULY 7 AND 8. All the Ford dealerships across the free country invite you to two days of festivities celebrating Fil-Am Friendship. The dealers will feed your spirit with prizes, freebies and of course, food and drinks. Even the chance to win one of specially dressed-up Lynx units is free. Above all, the financing schemes and savings on all Ford cars and trucks are history in the making! Make it a point to come. And if you wear a combination of red, white and blue, an instant prize will give you a really warm welcome.



Also look around for details:

Manila: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Manuyo II, Las Piñas. Tel. 885-1111.

Quezon Ave: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Quezon Ave, Makati. Tel. 885-1111.

Makati: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Makati. Tel. 885-1111.

Develo: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Develo. Tel. 885-1111.

Cebu: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Cebu. Tel. 885-1111.

Iloilo: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Iloilo. Tel. 885-1111.

Zamboanga: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Zamboanga. Tel. 885-1111.

Davao: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Davao. Tel. 885-1111.

Cagayan de Oro: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Cagayan de Oro. Tel. 885-1111.

Baguio: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Baguio. Tel. 885-1111.

Balintawak: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Balintawak. Tel. 885-1111.

Manila: Genspeed Auto and Truck Specialist, 1000 sq. m. lot, Manila. Tel. 885-1111.

IN YOUR FACE



VIRGIE Ramos brought the world-famous Hello Kitty to the country nearly 30 years ago, yet the popularity of the character has not waned. Kids still enjoy collecting merchandise of the cat with no mouth.



DINERS CLUB LAUNCHES PREMIERE CARD

Presenting the first Diners Club Premiere Club is Jose A. Munez Jr., president and chairman of Security International Card Corp., issuer of Diners Club cards in the Philippines, to guest of honor, Rafael F. Simpao Jr., president of Security Bank Corp.

He refused to work with an MNC but ended up making history in one

(From page B1)

agencies like the International Finance Corp. and the US Eximbank," he adds.

"I saw an opportunity to understand the business and the industry and get involved in major development projects of a whole range of companies from small to big—Meralco, Cagayan Electric, Visayas Electric," he says.

As an economic research assistant, he was a member of a project team and was in charge of looking at the viability of a project. He was tasked to know whether there was a market for a good or service.

Because of the nature of his work, there was a lot of room to earn overtime pay and his first paycheck amounted to about P115 for 15 days work.

"It was the first time I earned money and I bought something for my mother and father, not so expensive stuff, but gifts. Then I treated them and my six brothers and sisters to merienda at Brown Derby along Quezon Boulevard. The balance, I put in my savings account," he relates.

When Reyes left PDCP, his monthly pay was P2,500 and his position was project team leader.

He then joined Ramon Jacinto who was setting up a spin-off company from the Iligan Integrated Steel Mills Inc. The new project was a steel casting firm.

Jacinto doubled his salary to P4,000 and he was appointed general manager and treasurer. The new firm was Steel Casters Philippines.

But fate had other plans.

At about the time he was setting up Steel Casters in 1971, Christian Monsod had just returned from his stint as senior investment officer at the IFC and was helping the



REYES at party hosted by Asahi Manufacturing Co. in 1968

Lopez (of Meralco and ABS-CBN) set up the Philippine Petroleum Lubricants Refinery in Pili, Batangas.

Monsod's dad was a friend of Reyes' dad and one time the Monsods were visiting for dinner.

Monsod asked Reyes what he was doing and invited him to his office on a Monday. A few days later he was in Monsod's office and so



THE YOUNG Reyes at the Asia Center of Japan.

were Don Eugenio Lopez and his son, Geny.

Reyes said Don Eugenio asked him immediately, "Why don't you start working with us?"

"I was 25 years old and I suddenly could not speak," recalls Reyes at being addressed by the great industrialist. They were in a very big room on the 13th floor of the Meralco building along Ortigas Avenue.

Monsod and Geny started discussing what job to give him. Monsod asked Reyes how much he was earning and he answered P2,500.

Monsod told him they would start at that level.

Being young and without any financial burdens, Reyes said he was not really keen on negotiating for his salary. Monsod was VP for finance and he was made AVP.

But he told them about his commitment with the Jacintos and he was allowed to continue as treasurer as which he received P2,500 a

month. Reyes said he realized that although Jacinto was offering him

much more, the magnitude of the two projects he would be involved in were totally different.

Reyes said he liked being involved in new projects and promising companies. "It was something new and exciting and I could contribute something of value."

But again in 1985, much as he shied away from multinationals, Phipinas Shell, the local oil firm of the Royal Dutch Shell group of companies, bought PPRL in 1985.

Some 200 of PPC workers stayed with Shell and Reyes, who was then general manager of PPRL, felt it was his obligation to stay on just for a year for his people.

"I didn't want my people to feel cut out and also I wanted to provide guidance and help in the integration," he explains.

His one-year stint, however, has extended to 16 years now.

When asked why he has stayed so long, Reyes says: "When I joined I was brought into the management team of Shell. I was GM for treasury and planning. I learned more about the company I found out that this is a good company I can work with."

He said he realized that a multinational company could be home too.

"People have scope and room to manage and make decisions," he says.

He had a good mentor in Cesar Buenaventura, who was the first Filipino president of Phipinas Shell and at that time the firm was in a growth mode—Reyes' cup of tea.

In 1996, Reyes took over Buenaventura's position.

He said he never really aspired for any position. What attracted him always was the work and this paid off in the end.

Eloquence: Not a monopoly of the high and the mighty

"In Our Own Words"

By Sen. Robert Torricelli and Andrew Carroll
Washington Square Press, 2000

By DANTE M. VELASCO

EXTRAORDINARY thoughts and eloquent words are not a monopoly of the famous and the powerful.

Unforgettable speeches also come from the lips of ordinary people—if not more so—because these are spontaneous, are authentic expressions from life in the raw, or are surprisingly illuminating cutting through layers of formality or falsehood.

Who can forget Emma Lim, the cool and collected witness at the impeachment trial of the former President.

Initially looking like a frightened chick under the shadow of a so-called legal eagle preparing his menacing claws and flamboyantly displaying his verbal tricks to trap her, Ms. Lim countered with words that are now part of the Philippines' famous sayings: "Inimong po ang iced tea, your Honor, hindi po kinakain."

It was an unintended reprieve that left the famous law professor dumbfounded. The credibility of the witness was established by whether she is drunk or eaten!

Or, three decades ago, a television personality—probably unaware that he was subjecting a favorite martial law slogan to ridicule—said: "Sa ikauunlad ng bayan, bisikleta ang kailangan," a parody of the much-byped "Sa ikauunlad ng bayan, disciplina ang kailangan." The co-

median was thrown behind bars, but his words rang out, because it exposed the sheer hypocrisy behind the new society battle cry.

Many books of quotations and speeches include in their anthologies pieces only from the rich, famous, infamous and the powerful. And most of these are politicians, statesmen, celebrities, infamous gangsters—but never words from those we usually call "ordinary people."

That's why this book, "In Our Own Words"—subtitled "Extraordinary Speeches of the American Century"—is a refreshing exception and truly a treasure.

A collection of 150 speeches, the book at times presents speeches in pairs. For example, in the celebrated case of sexual harassment against Judge Clarence Thomas, the book features both the judge's defense and the chronology of Anita Hill detailing the advances of the accused.

The vision of the future of 11-year old Samantha Smith follows a great speech of United Nations Ambassador Jeanne Kirkpatrick to the Soviet Union for shooting down a passenger plane.

A rare collection is the tandem of versions of former US President Bill Clinton's apology for his "improper relationship" with Monica Lewinsky—the first is the original draft, the second is the speech Clinton ultimately read. You will note the hazards of spontaneity and the extreme caution of Clinton's masters of

the watchers of Hillary Rodham Clinton—erstwhile US first lady, now senator—will now be convinced that



taking place all at the same time within a decade.

One, therefore, gets the feeling of an ever active globe—while a scientific discovery is announced in America, a revolution is taking place in South America, a dictator emerges in Africa and a people are being bombed everywhere.

What makes the book's account extraordinary is that its views of history in the making are taken from the varied vantage points of the speakers.

You finish the book with the impression that man's capability for mercy or cruelty is truly boundless, and that the human thirst for justice is matched by the inhuman drive for exploitation.

We also know that in the middle of advancing technologies, the human spirit continues to assert itself and so still has "dominion over all the world."

The words of Tom Brokaw conclude this amazing book, delivered before the graduating class in 1999 waxing nostalgic about a time gone by, and summoning a new generation of leaders to confront the problems and opportunities offered by the then coming millennium. He mentions two lessons in history:

The short lesson: technology is not enough, not even when it comes with a generous package of stock options, sabbaticals, and leased time on a private plane.

"The long lesson? It is not enough to wire the world if you short-circuit the soul."

In this book, one remains more about this soul when one listens to the voices of the mighty and the lesser mortals upheld by the Almighty (dantemv@i-next.net.)

Business center in expansion mode

WHILE many firms are packing up and closing shop, a top regional executive of Regus, the world's largest instant office provider, is looking into the viability of setting up another Regus business center in Makati, in addition to its present address in The Enterprise Center along Ayala Av.

In a recent visit, managing director Filippo Sarti also announced the opening of a new Regus center in Singapore last July 2, raising the company's number of centers in the region to 22.

Sarti is responsible for Regus' operations in 13 cities in nine countries across the region, with 21 business centers accommodating over 4,000 workstations.

Worldwide, Regus has 379 business centers in 50 countries and around 2,800 employees.

The company offers fully furnished, staffed and equipped offices on short-term leases, fully equipped meeting rooms by the hour, or the day; video-conferencing, or instant face-to-face meetings worldwide; Touchdown, or offices by the day; Link, or the virtual office; and Netspace, a total property solution for client's facilities managed by Regus.

Together with instant offices and meeting rooms are reception and waiting areas, service points, coffee points, cyber cafes, rest rooms and fully equipped kitchens.

The Regus portfolio of products and services is constantly being improved and expanded, according to Sarti, an expert in general management, financial and commercial management and



SARTI

business development.

Before joining Regus in June 2000, Sarti worked for Symonds Group Ltd. for 10 years in the facilities management industry, helping to establish its UK business.

He worked as both the regional director and commercial director for Symonds Facilities Management PLC in the UK and as managing director of its subsidiary joint venture Charter Services Ltd.

Sarti has established facilities management businesses in the United States and Australia for Symonds. For the last four years, he was chief executive officer of Symonds Pty Ltd. in Australia.

Sarti has a BSc in Quantity Surveying, an MBA from the Cranfield School of Management in the UK, and is an associate of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors.

Broadcaster delivers more than the news, fixes vehicles too

(From page B1)

And since competition is inevitable, Martin also teaches his workers the importance of competition in keeping any business alive.

"I don't want any of us to be complacent at any point, even if we are constantly getting customers and doing well," he says. "Competition can be really stiff. And if you are not always on your toes, competition can kill you. But if you are good in keeping up with competition, it also generates good business."

Up to this day, Martin swears he

is still learning the ropes of the auto repair business. But he keeps the faith that with sheer diligence and genuine concern, he'll never go wrong in the trade.

Martin attributes his keen business sense to his own perseverance and determination. He started making money when he was still a teenager, by assembling a bike and selling it.

While other boys were dependent on their allowance from their parents, Martin was earning his own money. Since then, he was already thrilled with the idea of earning big

money the hard way.

"Probably if I could already assemble a car at that time, I would have done it," he enthuses. "I really love cars. My fascination with cars began when I was a kid."

Martin is proud of the fact that he got his first car, a Mitsubishi Sigma, from his own sweat and tears. He was then working as a part-time waiter in an upscale Oriental restaurant in Australia, where he lived for eight years.

"I saved up for a car and bought it for A\$2,000," Martin shares. "It feels great that I got my first car

through sheer hard work."

Martin took up film and media studies at the University of Ballarat in Australia. When he returned to Manila, he was hired as a newscaster on GMA-7.

Today, aside from making his mark as a broadcast journalist, Martin is also intent on making it big as a businessman.

His Genspeed Auto Shop is certainly a good fallback option in case he gets tired of the TV cameras and the klieg lights. But for now, Martin seems bent on making a go of both careers. And making it good, too.



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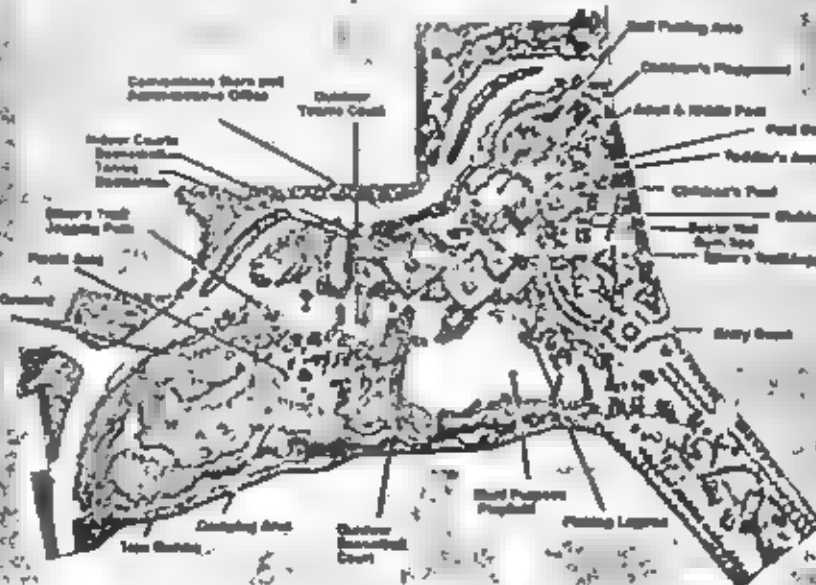
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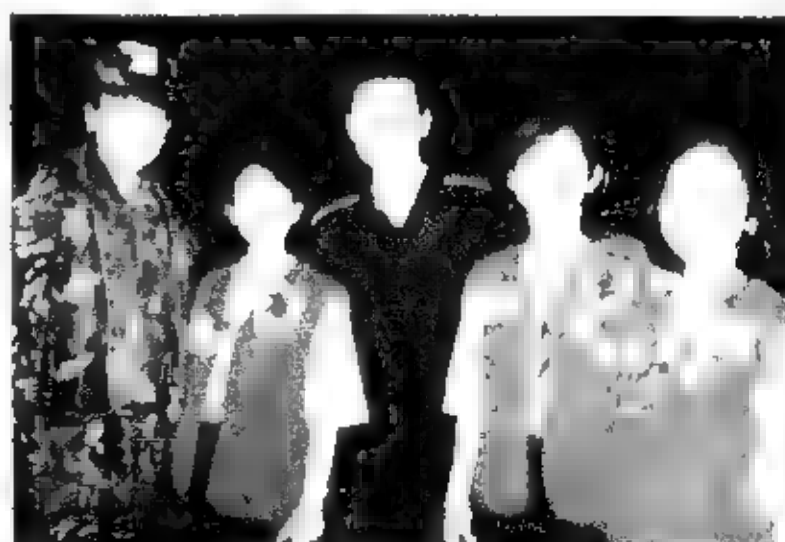
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AT THE LAUNCHING (from left) were event host Paolo Bediones, programs chair Minyong Ordoñez of Basic Advertising, creative director Abby Jimenez of Jimenez D'Arcy, overall chair Pedro N. Dy-liacco of Nestle Philippines, vice chair and Pana president Angelica P. Suiza of Golden ABC Inc., administrative director Blen Fernando of Alaska Milk, finance director Jun G. Alcantara of Asia Brewery Inc., and Pana executive director Dr. Nonie S. Azarcon



DR. Nonie Azarcon, Angelica Suiza, Richard Reynoso, Gigi Rodriguez and Blen Fernando.

'Target Market, Asintado sa Pinoy Ngayon' launched



SUSAN Dimacala, Adboard chair



17TH PAC vice chair and Pana president Angelica P. Suiza of Penshoppe closes the program



17TH PAC overall chair Pedro "Noy" Dy-Liacco of Nestle Philippines presents the campaign to the ad industry

THE HOT June 15 evening was made even hotter at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel. Cebu had just been proclaimed the 17th Philippine Advertising Congress' official venue for the second time in a row. Thus proclamation party was, in many ways, a "coming out" of sorts for the Queen City of the South.

The biennial advertising congress

to be held Nov. 21-24 at Waterfront Hotel focuses on the agenda "Target Market, Asintado sa Pinoy Ngayon." The theme centers on the consumer, the *raison d'être* for the continuing global evolution and revolution of marketing trends and techniques.

Guests from various organizations such as KBP, Asap, Mores, OAAP, 4A's, Ibab, and CAAP

turned up to support the event

Pedro "Noy" Dy-liacco, the overall chair of the Ad Congress presented the members of the executive committee: Pana's Angelica Suiza, corporate communications director of Golden ABC Inc., was named overall vice chair; Joint CEO Abby Jimenez of Jimenez D'Arcy, creative committee chair; Blen

Fernando of Alaska Milk Corp., administrative committee chair; Pana director Jun G. Alcantara of Asia Brewery Inc., finance committee chair; Minyong Ordoñez of Basic Advertising Inc., programs committee chair; and Bobby Barro of GMA-7, PR and publicity committee chair; and Doc Nonie Azarcon, Pana executive director



THE PHILIPPINE Daily INQUIRER is one of the meal sponsors of the 17th Philippine Advertising Congress. At the contract signing at The Manila Hotel were ways and means chair Gil Chua of AMA-DDB Philippines, INQUIRER VP for advertising Fe pe Olarte, finance director Jun Alcantara of Asia Brewery, INQUIRER president Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez, overall chair Pedro N. Dy-liacco and vice chair Angelica P. Suiza of Penshoppe.

Atenean execs keep spirit of 1967 alive

(From page B8)

Many of them have not seen each other in over 20 years and the meetings became golden opportunities to reminisce about the good old days. They then thought why not put up a band, since almost all of them played for a "combo" at one time or another, as their contribution to the celebration.

It took all of two years to literally get their act together and by 1992, the Spirit of '67 played before their classmates during the reunion in Ateneo. It was such a hit that the reunion for these friends is not yet over, and it's been close to 10 years.

Band members

There were originally eight members from the Ateneo batch of '67 who formed the band, but it is now down to six who are career men by day and entertainers by night.

Candido Dizon, the lead vocalist of the Spirit of '67, is a logistics service provider for food and beverage giant San Miguel Corp. and a part-time management consultant with a Master's degree in Business Management from the Asian Institute of Management.

He is also a member of the board of the Manuel L. Quezon University. Juan Velasquez who sweeps girls off their feet with his sweet rendition of The Critters' Mr. Deingly Sad, was former chief finance officer of Pilipino Telephone Corp. and executive assistant to former PLDT president Tony Boy Cojuangco.

Bimbo Santiago, on the other hand, has carved out a profession in the advertising and then in marketing industries, having worked with the biggest advertising agencies such as McCann Erickson and Lintas. He is now retired but still executes marketing programs as a consultant.

Jake Arellano, who plays bass, is considered the leader in the servicing of fuel injection systems and turbochargers in the country. Pocholo Santiago, considered the Mick Jagger of the group who can sing Whiter Shade of Pale of Procul Harum, was the only one who continued singing professionally. He went to Japan for eight years, and now that he's back, he helps set up bars and entertainment joints for Japanese and Korean clients.

Sonny Alvendia, on the other hand, does not sing or play any instrument but he manages the group. He helps set up gigs for them while operating the Jade Vine restaurant in Manila and acting as the treasurer



ADVERTISING man Bimbo Santiago is now happily singing his career blues away.



JAKE Arellano works his bass as well as his diesel engines.

of MLQU.

One of the original members who had to leave because of pressures at work is Alfonso Zamora, former president of the RFM group's Consumer Bank and now owner of the National Sports Grill.

Stress relief

Dizon tells the Inquirer that they got together to play with no idea that they would end up doing it professionally. After all they were in their middle ages and were busy doing their own thing. But perhaps the music was just too good to be ignored.

"When our friends started to get us to play during weddings, parties or corporate events, we said to ourselves that we better be good at it because people are paying us good



JOHNNY Velasquez, former Piltel chief finance officer, provides the swoon factor in the band.



POCHOLO Santiago can give Jim Morrison a run for his money.

money for it. So we made a commitment to be the best," Dizon says.

The friends then rearranged their schedules so that they can practice religiously every Monday night at one of the buildings of Jake Arellano. They would go through the music they grew up and choose the ones that would connect well with a particular audience.

Alvendia says he enjoys having a new career with the Spirit of '67 because it makes him more relaxed to do business during the day. It is a great way to relieve stress, he says, because he gets the chance to remember his younger days and at the same time get paid for it.

The music from the 60s and the disco and swing music of the 70s provide the main material of the group.



CANDIDO Dizon, vocalist, sings and manages a logistics company at the same time.



SONNY Alvendia, manager of the Spirit of '67

"Working with the band has also helped me deal with different people with different temperaments and I do this too as a manager. It is also something you can talk about at work. It is a great ice breaker," he says.

The Santiago cousins agree, saying that playing the band is good therapy to wash away all the stress from business.

Velasquez, on the other hand, says that playing with the band has helped him deal better with people at work. He says the Spirit of '67 always comes up in conversations, even if these are in the boardrooms of the top corporations.

"It helps me get rid of a lot of tension. If other people spend time playing golf during the week, then I play with the band once week too. It

is not very difficult to balance work and playing with the band," Velasquez explains.

First gigs

After playing with friends, the Spirit of '67 first played before a different audience at the Pacific Star when Tony Boy Cojuangco got them to play during the reunion of the Ateneo/Maryknoll/Assumption class.

It was again such a rousing success that offers finally started coming in.

"I used to call people up to get gigs for the band, but now people call us," Alvendia says.

They have performed at Strumms, the former Studebakers, Tony Roma's, Kiko Bar, Slim Jim's, Le Tuxi, Century Park and Retro Bar.

The Spirit of '67's latest haunt is the Conway's bar of the Makati Shangri-la Hotel where they play every Thursday. Their most recent outing was the two-day Flower Power party where businessmen and expatriates let their hair down and danced to the dance tunes of the 60s and 70s.

They are also frequently called on to perform at corporate events of the Lopez group and the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines.

"We discovered from our performances that there are many of us out there who want to reminisce through music. It is really very surprising because many of us have stopped playing after high school but here we are performing before people who dance and have a great time. I have to pinch myself sometimes," Dizon says.

To have that professional touch, the Ateneo classmates got the services of professional musicians and female vocalist Maso Diez (former member of Hoidog) to complete the group.

Steve de Jesus plays lead guitar, Naito Canlas is on keyboards, and Arnold Austria plays drums.

The result is a dance band that can transform a sober, listening crowd to a standing, dancing crowd through such songs as The Beatles' Drive My Car, Roy Orbison's Pretty Woman and even Elvis Presley's Hound Dog.

The future

Bimbo Santiago says it was surprising that they got this far, but they have no plans of stopping anytime soon. They have a commitment, he says, to the people who follow them and count on their group to bring them back to those times when they were all teenagers.

In their words, their plan is "to keep on singing and making our audience happy for as long as we can sing in harmony."

Day spa...

(From page B8)

Desi explains that the location of his Zen branches are quite strategic because people, when they get tired of shopping, can simply drop by Zen and get a quick 20-minute massage. It beats the hassle of having to drive to another spa and endure the traffic just to get a quick massage relief.

The convenience of its location especially attracts working people, who can just pass by Zen after work.

The branch in Megamall, for instance, draws in a lot of customers because it is accessible to those who are living in nearby places such as Greenhills, Pasig or Green Meadows. Thus, one can easily go for a quick stopover.

Moreover, Desi comments on how the concept of day spa has already been integrated in the Filipino way of living.

"Massage has become a way of life. It's no longer a luxury but a necessity especially for those who slave away at their desks eight hours a day."

The most popular service is the full body Swedish massage. The younger crowd usually goes for the chair massage.

However, this day spa cannot be compared to those in hotels or the professional spas since there is a difference in their clientele, as well as the scope and services they provide. Their goals, therefore, are quite different, according to Hebron.

"People who go to Zen are those in need of a quick massage to relieve or de-stress them; those who go to professional spas would rather want an overall, head-to-toe pampering."

The bulk of Zen's clientele is comprised of working people, from late 20s to 40s, more than half of which are men. Their younger clients, mostly teenagers, are just curious to try out Zen massage.

The branch in Megamall, has a bigger clientele because of its location, and business is bustling even during weekdays. The one in Festival, although quite slow during weekdays, catches up from Fridays to Sundays.

Future Plans

"I always have the option to expand, say, add 15 more beds in a branch, but I'd rather not because it isn't practical," says Hebron.

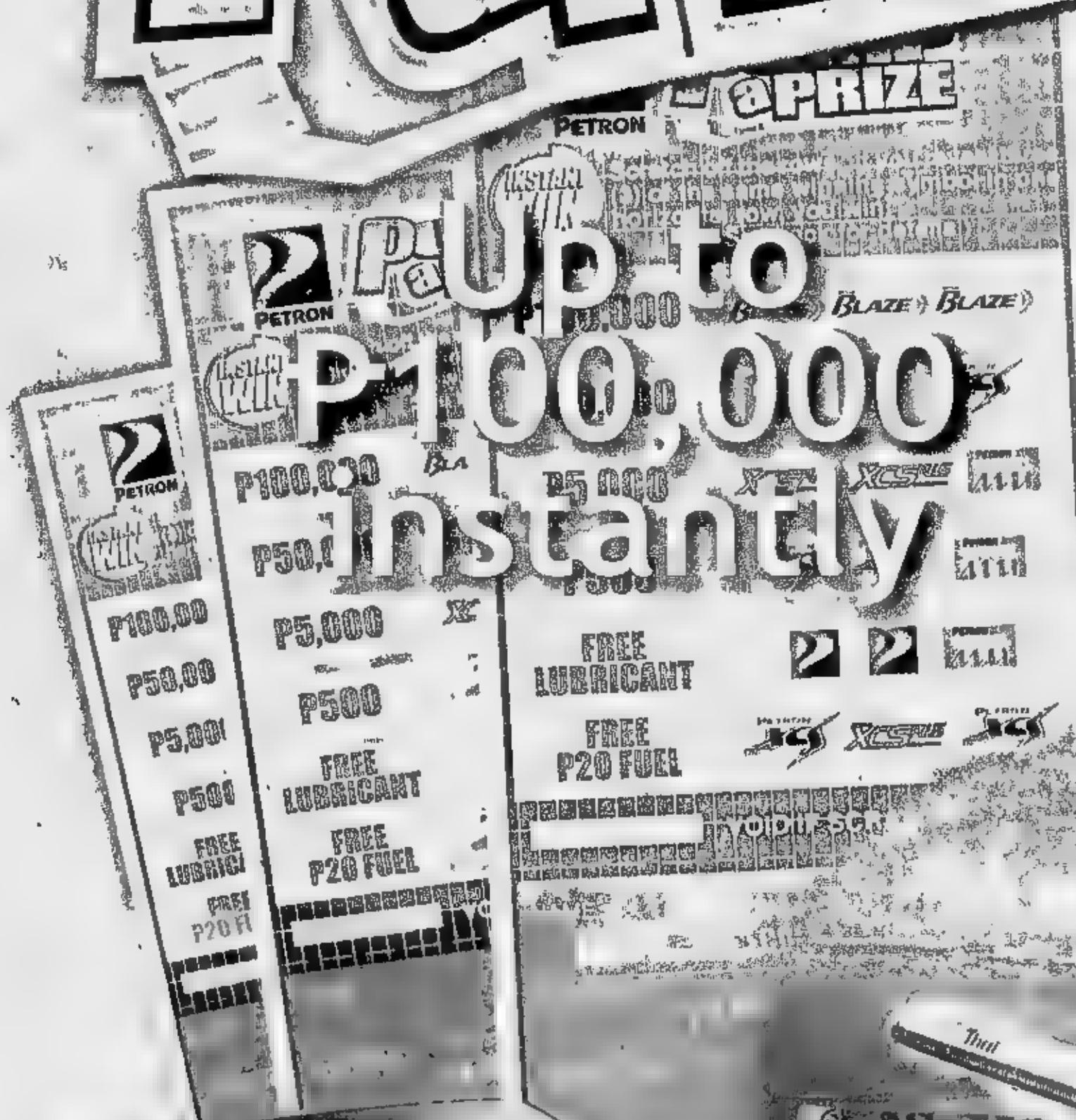
He says he would just get nervous at the fact that he has 30 beds but then he has to make sure that he would be able to fill them all up—that he cannot guarantee every day of the week. Week ends are fine, as the mall is busy with people, but come weekdays, the place isn't as full. Plus, there are other considerations as well, such as additional expenses on salaries and rent.

Instead, Desi plans to open up other branches in Fort Bonifacio Robinson's Galleria and Maleta Plaza for the branch in Fort Bonifacio include a cafe to go with the spa, which is a perfect place to hang out and/or smoke while waiting for one's turn.

Target opening date for this branch is set in September.



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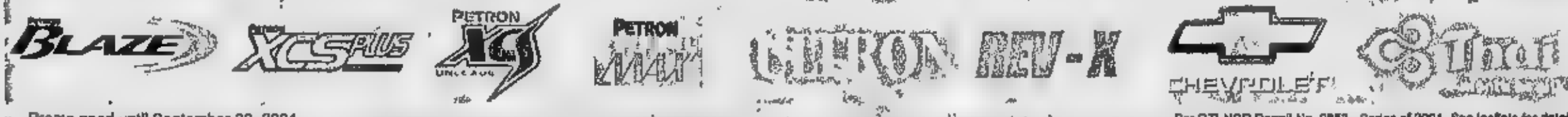


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SundayBIZ

Atenean execs keep spirit of 1967 alive

BY TINA ANCREO-DUMLAO

MANY of them took the same bus ride to the Ateneo de Manila University when they were in first grade, and ended up being the best of friends all the way to high school. They shared the once-in-a-lifetime experience of being a teenager and this included playing in a band or "combo" as it was known then, just for the fun of it and the love for music.

Then college came and the music was stilled, at least for a while, to give way to more serious study and eventually individual careers in the corporate world.

But music and talent will always find a way of coming out, even after more than 30 years of being dormant. As they say, when the music bug bites, it is like malaria—you never really shake it off.

Everything came full circle in 1990 when these old friends got together to meet about the impending 25th homecoming celebration of the Ateneo High School Class of 1967.

ATENEAN/B6

THE SPIRIT of '67 with female vocalist Maso Diaz and session artists Steve de Jesus, Nato Canas and Arnold Austria



Day spa offers 'chair' to relax tired bodies

BY AMELITA R. REMO

THE CURE to a stressful day can either be a hot shower, a drink or even a smoke at the end of the day. But for others, a healthier option would be a short, quick massage, to loosen those strained, aching muscles.

This is what Zen, a day spa, offers its customers, along with the convenience of it being inside a mall. Zen owner, Desiderio Hebrón, opened his first branch back in 1994 at the fifth floor of Megamall, followed by another branch in Festival Mall. This "new age" day spa offers a new style and ambiance in massage therapy, along with their new "chair massage."

Although Hebrón's original plan was to put up a medical center similar to his family's business in the US, he decided against it because Filipinos had a different idea of medical centers or walk-in clinics.

Instead, he opted to open what he also refers to as a service center, but catering to a different need, a different market.

"It actually started when I saw the 'chair' in CNN and I thought it was a different way of giving a massage, this could be a good business," Hebrón relates. What prodded him further to take on the spa business is what was then the economy boost in Asia around 1994, where businesses were booming.

Moreover, his frequent visits to spas with friends, finally convinced Desi to put up a spa that does not only offer the chair massage, but full body massages and foot treatments as well. However, he preferred to take out the facial treatments, at least for the meantime.

Zen offers therapeutic massage in three kinds—the Shiatsu, which is a dry massage applying on pressure points; the Swedish, a massage that makes use of oils and the process of kneading muscles; and Aromatherapy, which makes use of various scents that could either be relaxing or invigorating.

The most popular these days, however, is the "chair massage," which is a 20-minute seated backrub massage that can be received fully clothed. Reflexology and foot treatments are also available.

Zen also boasts of a friendly staff and highly trained massage therapists. Dry saunas, hot and cold showers and separate facilities for men and women are provided as well. The customer is assured of privacy with their separate cubicles.

Success

Zen, with its two branches, has been around for seven years already, yet the business has been thriving quite healthier than expected.

However, keeping Zen in business was not an easy feat. Desi, who was born and raised in the United States, relates his first experiences working with Filipinos.

"It was difficult at first because of the cultural differences but I slowly learned the ropes," says Hebrón. "Patience and professionalism helped me understand how things work around here."

However, despite the challenges of single-handedly managing Zen and his workers, Desi was able to pull it off and maintain loyal customer patronage. He attributes this to the quality of the services Zen delivers.

Not only did Desi create the look and design for the Zen branches, he also supervises both stores and trains the massage therapists as well. He wants to take full quality control of Zen and his workers.

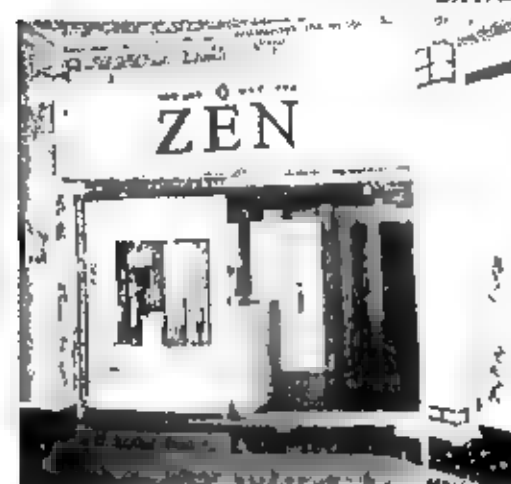
Another edge of Zen, according to Desi, is how the outlets were designed.

Unlike other spas, Zen is structured as this: reception, locker, lounge, massage cubicles and then reverse. In this way, we could assure our customers of privacy when receiving a massage whether fully clothed or not," he explains.

"Zen business has been good because not only is it affordable, it's very accessible too," Hebrón stresses.

Zen offers massages at affordable rates. For just around P500 to P700, one can already avail of a full body massage. At such rates, availing a massage is no longer a luxury—it would be easier on the pocket especially for those who make massage a part of their daily routine.

DAY/B6



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INQUIRER
RiViA
By BONG BARRAMEDA

While you were sleeping

Q. Is it true that you are taller when asleep than when you are awake?

A. Yes. You grow by about 8 millimeters (0.3 inch) every night when you are asleep, but shrink to your former height the morning after. During the day, the cartilage disks in the spine are squeezed like sponges by gravity while you stand or sit. But at night, when you lie down to sleep, the pressure is relieved and the disks swell again. For the same reason, an astronaut can be temporarily 50 millimeters (2 inches) taller after prolonged weightlessness in space.

For the Record. Dreaming sleep is often known as REM sleep (rapid eye movement) because during it the eyes move around visibly behind the closed eyelids as if scanning a picture. Curiously, humans are not the only animals that exhibit rapid eye movements. Other mammals and birds do it too, though for shorter periods — suggesting that they also have dreams.

Classified Odd. The title of 'the laziest animal in the world' probably goes to a small, tropical American mammal known as the sloth — his very name means 'slow'. This sluggish creature spends almost his entire life clinging erect to the trunk of a tree or hanging upside down from a branch. He doesn't make a single move unless it's absolutely necessary. This queer-looking fellow with a rounded head and a grotesque, flattened face, cannot walk — if he ever moves along the ground he does so by pulling his body along with his claws. And his belly is almost constantly filled. It may take a sloth more than a week to digest a meal, and in the meantime, he does nothing but loaf. And should some rude creature on the ground below disturb his slumber, the sloth can investigate the noise-maker with a minimum of effort — due to an unusual arrangement of neck vertebrae, a sloth can turn his head through a 270-degree angle.

WORD WATCH

Istambay from the English *stumble*, which, to the contrary, means 'a person or thing that can be depended on, or one ready to be used if needed.'

NOTICE OF LOSS

This is to inform the public that the following provisional receipts of All AsiaPlans Corp. were declared lost.

Series number	Series number	Series number	Series number
5-7 35031-35	5-51 35251-55	5-7 35031-35	5-51 35251-55
5-10 35046-60	5-53 35261-65	5-10 35046-60	5-53 35261-65
5-11 35051-55	5-63 35311-15	5-11 35051-55	5-63 35311-15
5-12 35056-60	5-64 35316-20	5-12 35056-60	5-64 35316-20
5-13 35061-65	5-65 35321-25	5-13 35061-65	5-65 35321-25
5-14 35066-70	5-66 35326-30	5-14 35066-70	5-66 35326-30
5-17 35081-85	5-67 35331-35	5-17 35081-85	5-67 35331-35
5-18 35086-90	5-68 35336-40	5-18 35086-90	5-68 35336-40
5-19 35091-95	5-69 35341-45	5-19 35091-95	5-69 35341-45
5-20 35096-00	5-70 35346-50	5-20 35096-00	5-70 35346-50
5-21 35101-05	5-71 35351-55	5-21 35101-05	5-71 35351-55
5-22 35106-10	5-72 35356-60	5-22 35106-10	5-72 35356-60
5-23 35111-15	5-73 35361-65	5-23 35111-15	5-73 35361-65
5-24 35116-20	5-74 35366-70	5-24 35116-20	5-74 35366-70
5-25 35121-25	1-742 7411-20	5-25 35121-25	1-742 7411-20
5-26 35126-30	1-947 9461-70	5-26 35126-30	1-947 9461-70
5-28 35136-40	1-948 9471-80	5-28 35136-40	1-948 9471-80
5-29 35141-45	2-14 10131-40	5-29 35141-45	2-14 10131-40
5-31 35151-55	2-775 17741-50	5-31 35151-55	2-775 17741-50
5-34 35166-70	3-4 20031-40	5-34 35166-70	3-4 20031-40
5-37 35181-85	3-786 27851-60	5-37 35181-85	3-786 27851-60
5-38 35186-90	3-789 27881-90	5-38 35186-90	3-789 27881-90
5-42 35206-10	4-787 33931-95	5-42 35206-10	4-787 33931-95
5-43 35211-15	5-748 38736-40	5-43 35211-15	5-748 38736-40
5-49 35241-45	57191-95	5-49 35241-45	57191-95

Any transactions covered by the above numbered receipts will not be honored by the company.

ALL ASIAPLANS CORPORATION
All AsiaCapital Center, Paseo De Roxas,
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ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

School is cool with Barbie

BARBIE'S latest fashion doll for the summer season is so cool, it comes in a bag. Richwel Trading Corp. introduces the School Cool Barbie doll. This doll is especially packaged not in a carton but in its own reusable backpack kids can use for school. (Mommy, make sure school stuff is in it.) And here's more. Included in the package is an inch ruler, mini color pencils, and a notepad girls would love. And for Barbie, she has her own lunch kit, style comb, and school pack to bring with her to the Barbie University.

The packaging also is a fold-down playset that simulates her study room with a chair, writing desk and books. From May to August, Barbie School Cool will have a coloring contest open to girls aged 4 to 11. Just color the coloring sheet given when you buy a Barbie School Cool Doll and have a chance to win up to P10,000. See posters and coloring sheet mechanics for details. School Cool Barbie dolls are available in all department stores and at the Think Pink Boutique at Glorietta 2.



BAYER'S 'YOUNG ENVIRONMENTAL ENVOYS'

THE search is on for Bayer's "Young Environmental Envoys," a program which seeks to educate the Filip no youth in the global effort to save and protect the environment. Under the program, 16 Filipino college students, aged 18 to 24, and who have a genuine concern for the environment, will be chosen via a regional search — four each from Metro Manila, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. Out of the 16 "eco-warriors of the future," seven will be chosen to join their counterparts from Thailand and Singapore in a weeklong all-expense paid educational trip to Germany next October. The search is a joint project of Bayer Philippines, Inc. and Luntiang Pilipinas, a nationwide tree-growing program headed by Senator Loren Legarda, in cooperation with the Commission on Higher Education. Shown during the program launching at the Peninsula Manila are (from left) Dorothy E. Claro, public relations officer, Bayer Philippines Inc.; Dr. Iris Loettigert, vice president, corporate services, Bayer Philippines Inc.; Senator Loren Legarda-Leviste, founder and chair, Luntiang Pilipinas; Ester Albano-Garcia, chair, Commission on Higher Education, and Angelito Villanueva, executive director, Luntiang Pilipinas.

Rice and shine with Jollibee

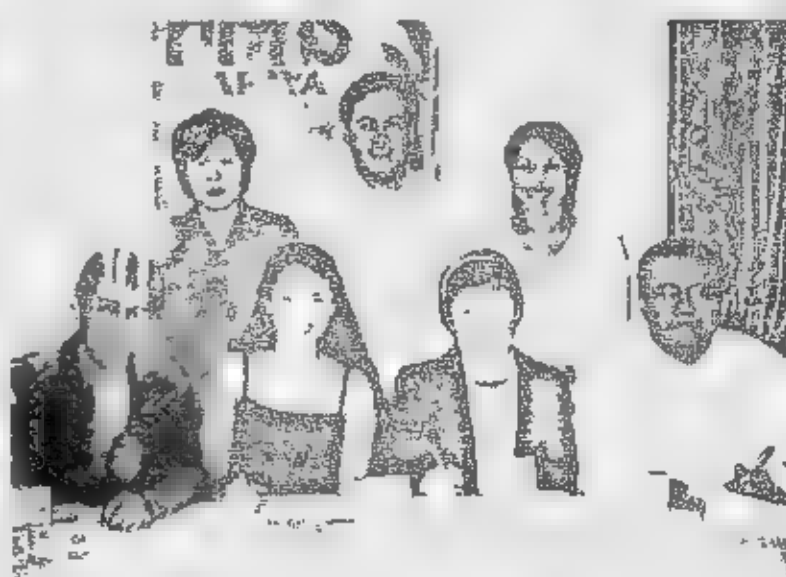
FASTFOOD leader Jollibee dishes out four excellent reasons to have hearty, filling meals these days with their Time to Rice offer. Jollibee's rice meals cater to the Pinoy taste, and now customers can enjoy four of their favorite Jollibee rice meals at less the usual price. The latest Jollibee treat features four filling rice meals. Customers can save as much as P13 when they choose from Honey Beef Rice or Fish n' Rice for only P55 each, two-piece Burger Steak with rice for P45; and Shanghai Rolls with rice for P35. Promo runs until July 9 at all Jollibee stores nationwide.

Philips at BPI Madness

PHILIPS Consumer Electronics, one of the world's leading consumer electronics companies, participates at the 25th BPI Installment Madness Sale in Glorietta, which runs until July 8. Get the latest in home entertainment equipment for as much as 0 percent interest with best installment terms. The Philips booth showcases Philips Real Flat TVs, DVD Players, Mini Hi-Fi systems with MP3 Players, Micro Hi-Fi Systems with VCD Players, and car stereos and accessories.

'The Corporate Show .01'

ON July 9 to 11 Primetrade Asia Inc. will be launching The Corporate Show .01 at the Glorietta Activity Center in Makati City. The Corporate Show .01 aims to consolidate the advertising and marketing needs of corporations into one combined effort that enables corporations to establish a huge network of potential clients in a short time through the tested medium of the trade fair. The Corporate Show .01 is presented by The Philippine Daily Inquirer, Centrex Corporation, and Philonline in cooperation with Club Panoly Resort Inc., Family First Inc., Canon Marketing (Philippines) Inc., and Asian Spirit.



BEAUTY TITLIST ENDORSES HIYAS

Splash Manufacturing Corporation breaks new ground by bringing to the market Hiyas Papaya Soap with Papaya Leaves. Hiyas Papaya has an all-natural scrub that intensifies the whitening effect. In line with the launch of the new Hiyas Papaya Soap with Papaya Leaves, a contract signing was held between Splash Manufacturing Corp., its advertising agency Brand Asia Ltd. and former Bb. Pilipinas 2000 second runner up Nicole Hofer (seated, second from left) as the official endorser of Hiyas Papaya Soap. Present during the contract signing were Bobby Yalong (Nicole's manager), SMC marketing manager Vicky Olalza (second from right) and GPM of Personal Care Group Dindo Bautista (right). Standing were Desiree Co VP/accounts director of Brand Asia Ltd. (left), Brand manager for Hiyas Papaya Soap Gary Morales (center) and Brand Asia account manager Ampy Porcare (right).

Beverage tools at AsiaFood Expo 2001

ALLEGRO Beverage Corporation will showcase beverage equipment on AsiaFood 2001, the 10th International Exposition on Food Processing, Packaging and Handling Machinery, Equipment and Technology from Sep. 5 to 8 at the World Trade Center. Allegro Beverage Corporation will be featuring its Nuova Simonelli Espresso Machine and Grinders. The espresso machine is made in Italy. The machine has the thickest copper boiler in the industry. It will also display Frosty Factory products like frozen slush and soft serve ice cream equipment. The machines can make 200 drinks in an hour. AsiaFood is organized by Trade Information Marketing and Exhibitions Inc. (T.I.M.E. Inc.). Interested parties may call 834-0085 to 86; fax 831-3828 or email time@skymet.net or visit www.tradeinfo.com.ph

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OBITUARIES

DR. RUDECINDO "TOTOY" F. ROCES, M.D.

of Legazpi City

Joined his Creator on Friday, July 6, 2001

He is survived by his wife Imelda "Mely" Crisol-Roces; children Billy, Ramon and Kim Lira, Angel and Agnes Montemayor, Martin and Elizabeth Rivera, and Vittorio and Mylene Cruz; grandchildren Matthew, Jacob and Melinda, Poncho and Ella, Chino and Martina; sisters-in-law Carmen B. Crisol and Lourdes O. Roces; nephews, nieces and cousins.

His body lies in state at the family residence at 15 Sikatuna Street, Legazpi City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, July 11, 2001 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at the St. Gregory the Great Cathedral, Old Albay, Legazpi City.

IN LOVING MEMORY

in the
 Fifth Death Anniversary

RODOLFO RICHARDSON KONG

who peacefully joined his Creator
 on July 9, 1996

Holy Mass will be offered tomorrow, July 9, at the following:

St. Thomas Aquinas Church 6:45 AM
 Brooklyn, New York
 St. Alphonsus de Liguori 6:15 AM
 Magallanes Village, Makati City
 Santuario de San Antonio Parish 7:30 AM
 Forbes Park, Makati City
 San Diego Parish 7:00 AM
 Polo, Valenzuela, Metro Manila
 Don Bosco Parish 6:30 AM
 Pasay Road, Makati City
 St. Patrick's Cathedral 8:30 AM
 New York City
 St. Clair Medical Center Chapel 8:00 AM
 Morehead, KY
 St. Xavier Church 9:00 AM
 Brooklyn, New York
 St. Francis Chapel 4:45 PM
 Boston

MERCEDES QUEBLAR NOSCE
VDA. DE COROTAN

of Lucena City

has joined her Creator on June 30, 2001 at the age of 95.

Her children Fe, Fred (†), Ben, Ric and Luz.

Her mortal remains lay in state at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City and cremated yesterday, July 7, 2001.

Relatives and friends request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

We, the family of the late

ALEXANDER
FLORES DAUZ

of Bontoc, Mountain Province

Who joined his Creator on June 29, 2001
 at the age of 35

Wish to convey our sincerest and profound gratitude and appreciation to our relatives, friends and all those who paid their last respect, offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers, called from abroad, attended the funeral rites and who in so many ways gave comfort during our time of bereavement.

May God grant you abundant blessings for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

"WHOEVER finds his life will lose it, and
 whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."

Matthew 10:39

1st Death Anniversary

GABRIELA BAGA ELEOSIDA
PRESETACION BAGA BAUTISTA

of Bontoc, Mountain Province and Kibapawan City

Masses will be offered on July 8, 2001 at:

Our Lady of Medatrix 5:45 A.M.
 Kibapawan City
 Immaculate Conception 7:00 A.M.
 Vista Verde, Cainta, Rizal
 Della Strada 6:00 A.M.
 Quezon City
 St. Anne 6:00 A.M.
 Taguig, Rizal
 Madre Imbelin de Rosal 6:00 A.M.
 Italy

EMELINE DE LA
ROSA CORREA

"Sister Emme"

of Pico, Quezon

Peacefully joined her Creator

on July 6, 2001 at the age of 39.

Her remains lie in state at

Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels,

Sucat, Parangue City

Interment will be on July 11, 2001,

9:00 AM at Manila Memorial Park,

Sucat, Parangue

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"For God so loved the world,
 that He gave His only
 begotten Son, that whoever
 believes in Him shall not perish
 but have everlasting life."

Whoever finds his life
 will lose it, and
 whoever loses his life
 for My sake will find it.

Matthew 10:39



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Sunday LIFESTYLE

CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor



ILLUSTRATIONS: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Are our malls safe?

(Story on page C2)

sale

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EXTENDED! UNTIL AUGUST 15, 2001!

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2. Submitting a photo of you, your address, tel. no., and signature on lined display box. For Premium Hair Bleach and Oxidizing Lotion (100ml), while you wait for a piece of paper, you can also use the sample box to hold your photo.
3. Drop and insert entries to designated drop boxes located at major department stores, shopping centers, and SMC outlets. Entries must be marked with "KoLOURS Fabulous Buhay Glamorous" and "RAFFLE PROMO".
4. Promo is from April 5, 2001 to August 15, 2001.
5. Deadline for submission of entries is on August 10, 2001 (closed entries) and August 15, 2001 (drop box entries).
6. Nationwide Grand Draw on Aug. 31, 2001 with authorized DCM-BEAD representatives at SMC branches.
7. Parade bagging schedule:
First Prize - Bachelor Showcase
Second Prize - Dining Room Showcase
Third Prize - Living Room Showcase
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Second Prize - 2 winners of the Grand Draw
Third Prize - 3 winners of the Grand Draw
Fourth Prize - 4 winners of the Grand Draw
Fifth Prize - 5 winners of the Grand Draw
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Seventh Prize - 7 winners of the Grand Draw
Eighth Prize - 8 winners of the Grand Draw
Ninth Prize - 9 winners of the Grand Draw
Tenth Prize - 10 winners of the Grand Draw
9. Submitting prizes by fax (fax no. 890-8034) or by mail (address: SMC, 2/F HBC Corporate Center, Mindanao Ave., QC).
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Hotline: 730-1000 www.globe.com.ph

Are our malls safe?

BY ANNE A. JAMBORA

It is not hard to understand why Metro Manilans have become mall rats. Malls provide a respite for jaded city dwellers. At the mall, one can live vicariously in a cold and dark theater, shop to feel good despite depleted credit-card balances, pig out to cope with stress, scream out loud during mini concerts or contemplate on life while lazily sipping coffee. A trip to the mall is also an affordable and easy way to treat the whole family.

That is the good news. From the text and e-mail messages we've been receiving, however, heinous crimes like bombings and petty crimes like shoplifting, snatching and vandalism, are being committed in the malls—be it the parking lot, the restroom or a restaurant. There are the suave pickpockets, but the most dangerous are the *budol-budol* gang who usually prey on the young—those innocent, small children walking around on their own.

They are wolves in sheep's clothing. They

Despite warnings against mod squads of swindlers and snatchers, only 1-2 percent of crime occurs in malls

are sweet talkers, charming, sometimes impeccably dressed—all for show, of course—and if you're not careful, you could easily fall for their smooth talk. And before you know it, you've been duped.

Modern-day swindlers

"*Carifosong bastos*," says Maj. Gen. Thompson C. Lantion, director for police community



MAJ. Gen. Thompson C. Lantion, director for police community relations
PHOTO: VAL HANDUMON

relations, of the *budol-budol*, the modern-day Filipino swindlers. "*Mga taong walang malinis na buhay*."

Budol-budol is a term that literally means *halo-halo*. One strategy of the *budol-budol* is to carry some money in an envelop, the top and bottom of the bundle showing real money while the thicker, middle part of the stack is made of cut newspaper, thus the term.

The next step is to convince somebody to take the money in exchange for something valuable. The money, a *budol-budol* would convincingly explain, is a guarantee they'd return the valuables. "[*Budol-budol*] are people giving false information to extort money, jewelry or anything of value from other people," Lantion says.

Oh sure, only suckers or greedy opportunists would fall for such a racket. However, police records show many people actually get gypped. And the *budol-budol* are everywhere—streets, buses, airports (you could be seated next to one right now)—and yes, even in your favorite hang-out, the mall.

With human traffic of 120,000 to 140,000 for a regular-size mall on a typical day, how secure are mall-goers? Should people instead take refuge in their homes and buy stuff from the tube or via the Internet for fear of becoming the next victim?

Really, how safe are our malls?

"Malls are among the safest places in the metropolis, next to your home," Lantion says. He adds that of the 586 and 679 reported cases of robbery and theft, respectively, committed in the National Capital Region between Jan. 1 and March 31 this year, only 1-2 percent occurred at the malls.

A mall source says they had three to four reported cases of petty crimes in the past two to three months. Out of every five cases, they have a track record of successfully solving four, including *budol-budol*, he says.

It does help that security guards are also deployed to inspect mallgoers' bags before they enter. "That's a deterrent," Lantion says. But since the *budol-budol*, or any offender for that matter, are typically well-dressed and carry no weapons, how could security guards stop them, much more locate them in a crowd into which they could perfectly blend?

"Security guards are trained to be especially watchful of children who are alone, and if they happen to be with an adult, to discern if they're comfortable with the company or not," our mall source says.

He adds malls are so concerned about security they have installed hidden cameras and hired about 100 security guards—including undercover agents—on rotation. They spend over P1 million each month for security alone and even train janitors to be especially watchful. Aside from that, malls have clinics and in-house doctors for emergency cases.

New law enforcers

Recently, mall owners and the Philippine National Police have started to coordinate efforts to make malls safer for the public, Lantion says.

"We have 1,000 new policemen from Regions I to V that will be utilized for patrol only," he says. Although the new policemen will patrol the metropolis, it also means there will be 25-30 police enforcers inside and outside malls at any time. The public can distinguish them by their uniform—blue with matching boots and dark blue berets.

"It's the clamor of Metro Manilans to have visible patrols and police enforcers," he says. With a police efficiency record of 91.58 percent, or nine out of 10 crimes solved, Lantion is confident the police visibility program will boost security in the malls. (These policemen will be seen by Metro Manilans in the next few weeks as their uniforms are still, er, in the works.)

And the PNP does train security agents who, in turn, train their employees. In fact, the PNP, with the Public Information Agency, just launched an information drive in schools, especially among children, as part of its crime prevention program. This way, small children can avoid becoming victims of kidnapping, snatching or *budol-budol*.

In malls, snatchers don't even have to snatch anymore. The *budol-budol* can take away valuables from kids without resistance. Children sporting cell phones are common targets of *budol-budol*, cell phones being among the most common items snatched from mall-goers.

An average of 500 mobile phones is stolen daily nationwide, says Lantion, and it takes only three seconds to do the job. "It's illegal but it is the most lucrative business," he adds.

After shopping, a child would be approached and accused of using fake money by the *budol-budol*, pretending to be an undercover agent. The terrified child naturally denies this and is taken to a secluded place. The child is instructed to stay in place, but in order to guarantee s/he will not drift away, the *budol-budol* strips him/her of anything valuable, leaves the child but vows to come back.

Others operate by pretending to give a child a cell phone. This usually happens to children with backpacks. The *budol-budol* opens the backpack to supposedly put the cell phone in it but instead steals anything he can find of value from the child's bag.

Tips

To avoid becoming the next victim of petty crime, here is a list of tips, not just for mall-goers, but for everybody.

- Do not talk to strangers. This rule that has been passed on to children for generations is still golden, but how many people heed it? Be wary of strangers even if they're only asking for the time or directions. You can help them, of course, but be very aware of your belongings. And never ever walk with them to show them where to go if they're asking for directions.

- Do not get easily distracted. They could drop pens, step on your foot, tap on the window of a restaurant, etc., and when you get

ARE/p.C3

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O, chika na tayo lahat sa Lucky Me! Chicken Mami Noodles Manok Mania!

Chicken na chicken!



Are our malls safe?

(From page C2)

back to your business, your mobile phone, or your bag, is gone.

• Be alert in crowds. Don't just keep your head high like royalty, unmindful of strangers bumping against your back, front and sides. Hold your bag where you can see it—in front of you and close to your body.

• Be inconspicuous. If you own a Nokia 8890, then for God's sake do not flaunt it. Use it when necessary and never lend it to strangers who may approach you to make emergency calls. Likewise, do not wear too much jewelry on your body. You're only going to the mall so be subtle. Do not attract the attention of hungry wolves.

• Do not allow small children to go off on their own even if they are familiar with the place. Sure, McDonald's is just a few meters from where you are seated, and Junior can't wait to get his dose of French fries, but those few meters can spell the difference between Junior enjoying his fries and Junior being traumatized. Remember, the budol-budol love to prey on children.

• If you find yourself in a dubious situation,

scream, holler, shout, shriek so security guards, generally located 50 meters apart inside the malls, can respond. Besides, a loud scream attracts attention and people looking in your direction will scare away your attacker.

• Learn self-defense. If worse comes to worst, but the perpetrator where it will hurt most—the

face, groin, shin. That should immobilize him/her for a few seconds and give time for security to jump in. Be careful and be aware. Everything you

own, whether expensive or not, was bought with hard-earned money. Times are hard and people are bracing themselves for even tougher times ahead.

These criminals won't spare anything—not even your copy of the latest J. Lo album.

E-mail the author at aplat_blog@excite.com

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Mommy's Guide to Wound Protection

Is using an antiseptic cream really necessary?

The answer is, yes. Because it helps heal your child's wound twice faster than applying nothing at all.

Q: What's in an antiseptic cream that makes it effective in making the healing process faster?

A: An antiseptic cream, like Band-Aid® Brand Antiseptic Cream, contains clinically proven antibacterial agents like cetrimide and chlorhexidine digluconate, which effectively kill germs that cause infection. Its cream base also helps provide a moisturizing environment necessary for the faster healing of your child's wounds.

Q: Is it only recommended for deep wounds?

A: No. Also for minor wounds, which your active children usually get. Always remember that scratches, scrapes, abrasions, burns, insect bites and skin rashes could also get infected when treated improperly.

Q: Can it also help relieve pain and swelling?

A: Yes, it can help. Some antiseptic cream brands available in the market, like Band-Aid® Brand Antiseptic Cream, have special moisturizing formula, which cools and soothes the discomfort associated with the wound.

Q: Does it cause irritation when applied on the wound?

A: No. It contains no alcohol, so it does not sting nor cause any irritating feeling. It can also be absorbed by the wound quickly and effectively because it is water-based.

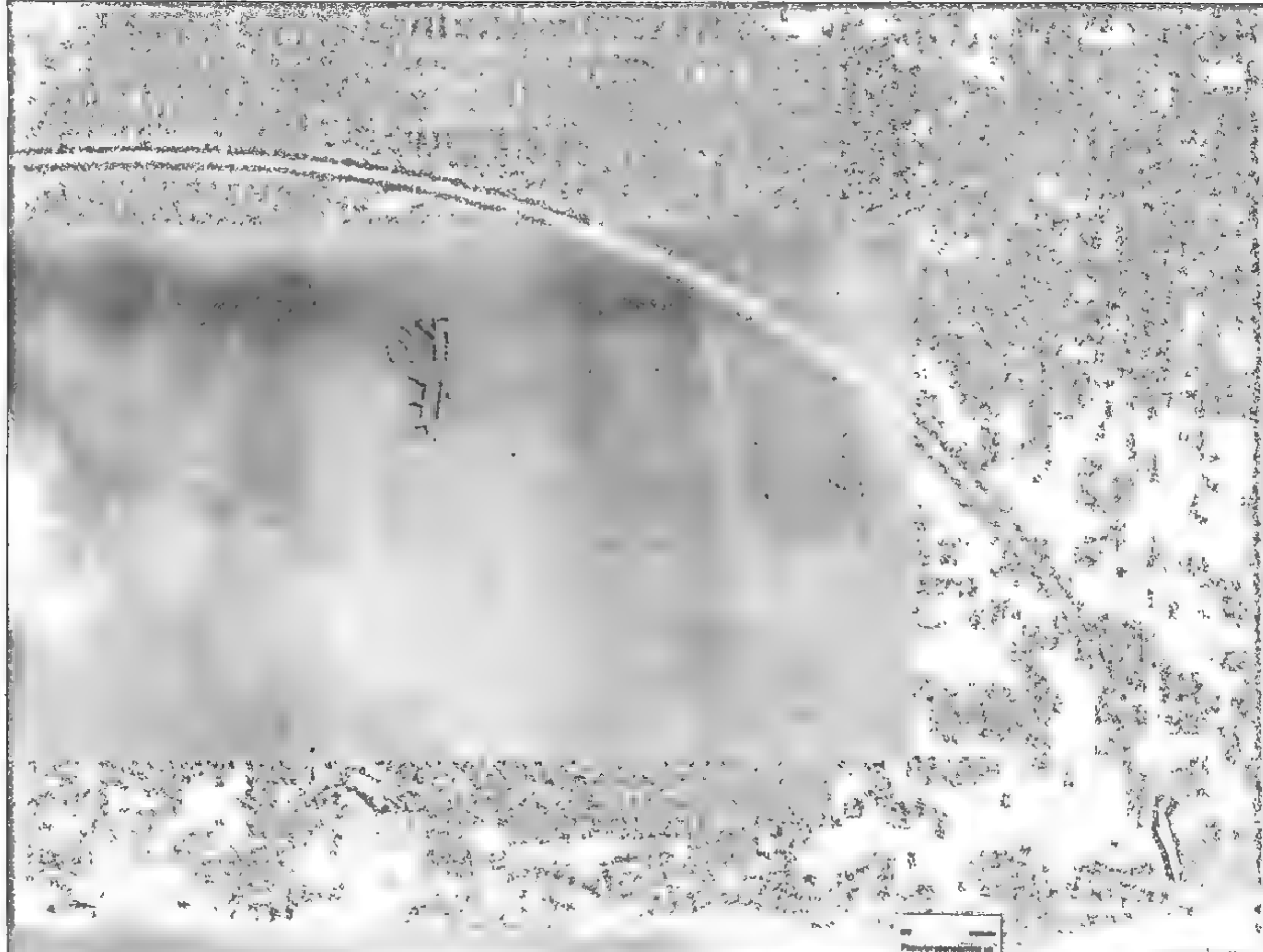
That also explains why it gives a cool, refreshing feeling when applied.

Q: What is the best way of applying antiseptic cream?

A: First, you have to clean the wound with soap and water. Next, disinfect the wound's surrounding area with cotton and isopropyl alcohol. Then, apply a small amount of antiseptic cream on the wound. Lastly, cover the affected area with a plastic strip.

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Iti pagpapalitan, itanong mo sa doktor



AWARD-WINNING choir of street children

Singing the blues away

BY GEM PADILLA

IT was over two years ago that I first heard these children sing during a joint birthday party for my college best friend Peng and myself. I wanted a different birthday party and she suggested a place in Ermita, Kanlungan sa Er-Ma.

The word *kanlungan* means sanctuary or refuge. Er-Ma stands for Ermita-Malate (the red-light district area). Kanlungan sa Er-Ma Ministry Inc., a nonstock, non-government child caring agency serving the children particularly in the Ermita and Malate areas, is a refuge for street children, prostituted young boys and girls, the exploited, the abused, the vagrants, the mendicants and the abandoned (mostly by rugby-dependent mothers).

The party I got was indeed a far cry from my usual drink-all-night and dance-till-you-drop celebrations. But mellow it was not. It was a totally different kind of rush.

Sure, the kids were yanking and tugging at you every chance they got or were just plain noisy as they enjoyed the Jollibee treat, parlor games, posing with the Jollibee mascot, but it was only their way of trying to get your attention because they loved to see new faces visiting their humble home or they were



just happy you were there for them.

I had only one guest: my mother. With a smile on her face, she asked, "Why?" I knew she meant why a sudden interest to help disadvantaged children? I just shrugged and thanked her for the cakes she brought. I guess I also didn't know why, it was just a spur of the moment thing.

As I got to know these children, I learned that very few of them are actually orphans. Most of these kids are runaways or have been abandoned. There are instances when



THE WARDS of Kanlungan performing at the launching of their music album.

The wards of Kanlungan sa Erma, a haven for street children and other kids with sad lives, have put together an album of music, hope and love

some of the children get reconciled with their families. There are also situations where workers have to keep these kids away from their family, as in the case of abused children. I can only sympathize with these kids. Having come from a loving family and having had a wonderful childhood, I cannot fathom their misery—how they were abused physically, mentally and sexually by their own kin using drug abuse as a blanket excuse; how they ran away and lived in the streets; how they met the street educators of Kanlungan who helped them get off the streets and made them realize that they still have a chance at a better life.

I have since become good friends with Awit Grace Pamfillo and Erma, two of the social workers of Kanlungan. Awit is the supervising social worker and the choir's conductor.

The Kanlungan Children's Choir is composed of 25 Kanlungan children, ages 7-15, who were

trained by Awit. It started as a singing group of children who live at the center. The choir has received invitations to sing at special occasions for business and professional groups or the church and other religious communities.

Heartfelt

Performing at different functions and joining chorale competitions somehow boost their morale—the applause and the appreciation of the audience make the children realize they have something worth sharing, that the hard-luck life notwithstanding, they are gifted.

As the kids' talents developed, their performances improved. They garnered the Best Chorale Group award in the First Music Festival for Street Children sponsored by the Manila Cluster in May 1993 and the first prize in the Christmas Carole Singing Contest hosted by ABS-CBN's "TV Patrol."

What makes their songs special

SINGING/p.cs



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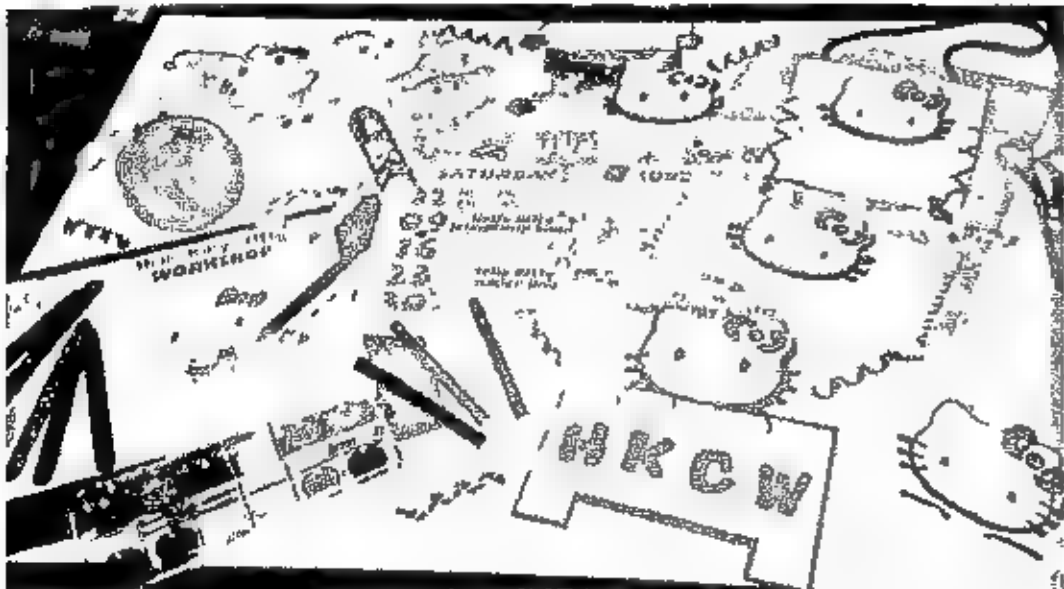


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Hello Kitty Café is holding a Hello Kitty workshop every Saturday and Sunday, 10:30-11:30 a.m., at the 3/F SM Megamall B, right next to Gift Gate.

Each child is given a workshop kit, which includes all the materials needed to create your own Hello Kitty piece. The workshop includes lunch.

The workshop was launched to encourage creativity in children and teach them the value of making friends. Children get to compare their Kitty creations over lunch and even show off their other talents. One participant entertained the group with a song. Parents who tag along sometimes even make their own Hello Kitty crafts.

To join, just choose which craft you'd like to make and sign up at the Café for the day, then this craft will be featured.

There are lots of choices for you and your child.

Only limited slots are available, so if you'd like to join, come visit or call 636-1732, 637-3520, or 726-9076, local 721.



The workshop was launched to encourage creativity in children

LUCAS takes his craft seriously

Healing playroom for kids

WHILE it was Cathy Babao-Guballa who created Migi's Corner after her son's death in 1998, she acknowledges that it was the keen support of generous individuals, institutions and groups that has kept her project growing.

Migi's Corner, which was built in memory of Cathy's son Migi, is a hospital playroom for children, set up in, thus far, five facilities throughout the country. Designed to be fun, bright and entertaining, these playrooms provide young patients with temporary relief from the pain and loneliness associated with their illness. The Corners can be found at the Philippine Heart Center, the Cupertino School for Special Children in La V str QC, the East Avenue Medical Center, the Philippine Children's Medical Center and the I Medical Center.

Since its founding, donations of toys, books and educational materials for the project have

poured in. Manulife Phils. is among the many supporters of Migi's Corner, with three special playrooms sponsored mainly by the leading Canada-based insurance company starting a year ago.

Recently, the company's vice president for marketing, Jom Ignacio, took Cathy to Little Tykes to shop for toys for the Corners. "It was an exciting day! Manulife donated P100,000 worth of toys bought from Little Tykes which will be distributed among the playrooms," Cathy reports. "Manulife bought plastic wagons and cars, miniature tree houses, picnic benches, turtle-shaped sandboxes, slides and even easels for the artistically inclined. The children will be thrilled!" Cathy is grateful for the help from friends, strangers and Manulife, who she feels are all there for a special purpose. "The Corners have come to exist by way of the tremendous love and support demonstrated by these kind individuals and corporations. It's like a miracle, with God's hand guiding us each step of the way," she says.



way," she says.

Jom Ignacio, on the other hand, states that his company's contribution to Migi's Corner has done them proud. "It is extremely rewarding for Manulife to be identified with such a worthy cause as this."

A sixth Corner is planned within the year, this time a Migi's Garden at the Philippine General Hospital. "In helping others and in building playroom for sick kids, I am helping fulfill God's purpose," said Cathy. "My life has found new meaning in spite of the grief. I know that my son lives on in the hearts of the children who have benefited from our handiwork, and in those who have been a part of this project."

Manulife Phils. is a wholly owned local subsidiary of Manulife Financial, a leading Canadian-based financial services company operating in 15 countries and territories worldwide. Through its 28,000 employees and agents, together with a network of distribution partners, Manulife Financial offers clients a diverse range of financial protection products and wealth management services. Funds under management by Manulife Financial, (Manulife Financial Corp. and its affiliated companies) were Cdn\$126.2 billion as at Sept. 30, 2000.

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THE FIRST Migi's Corner at the Philippine Heart Center



MANULIFE VP-Marketing Jom Ignacio

Feeding the children not just food for their stomachs

POVERTY, an international organization once said, is the biggest health problem in the world. It could also be said that poverty is the biggest sociopolitical, environmental, peace and order problem.

And, of course, poverty's main victims are the most vulnerable sectors of the population, particularly the children, as very clearly seen in many countries in Asia, home to half of the world's population. Children usually feel the impact of deprivation most because they are weak, voiceless and without political influence. They are unable to go to school, often sleep hungry, work to earn a living regardless of age, and sometimes also suffer physical, mental and emotional abuse.

In fact, despite the Convention on the Rights of the Child, many countries in Asia still fail to care for and protect their children and guarantee the full exercise of their rights.

With very low per capita incomes—Vietnam \$310, Cambodia \$300, Lao People's Democratic Republic \$400, Myanmar \$200, China \$860, and the Philippines and Indonesia \$1,000—many Asian countries are unable to provide basic services to their populations, espe-

One institution has quietly but consistently championed the cause of children, especially the neediest, and taken concrete steps to ensure their bright future

cially the children. These countries have high death rates both among adults and children, poor access to safe water and adequate sanitation, poor nutrition, high fertility rates, and poor access to health and educational services.

Struck by the enormity of the problem, a number of individuals and organizations have made the region's vulnerable children their special concern.

One institution that has quietly

but consistently championed the cause of children, especially the neediest, and taken concrete steps to ensure their bright future is the Feed the Children International (FTCI). Founded by Dr. Larry Jones in 1979, FTCL has been helping Asian children since 1984.

The nonprofit organization was established to provide food and other necessities—clothing, medical care and access to education—to poor, vulnerable, indigent children and their communities. Child care and development constitute FTCL's core program, the various components of which aim to enable children to exercise their basic human rights to proper health and nutrition, good education, safe water, protection from abuse and neglect, development so they can fulfill their aspirations in life, and participation and involvement in issues that affect them and their community.

Despite its name, FTCL does more than just feed children. After all, how much good can food do if the children are unable to go to school, have to work for a living or have to suffer abuse?

Over the years, FTCL has strengthened and expanded its activities to

make their impact more significant and sustainable. It realized that, just as it is better to teach a person to fish rather than just feed him, it is also more beneficial if children are given an environment more caring, protective and respectful of their rights. FTCL's activities are now geared toward transforming a child's home and community so he/she can truly flourish, feel safe and work toward realizing his/her dream.

The organization pursues initiatives that are effective and, more importantly, sustainable in ensuring the children's proper growth and development. In Thailand, where it started work in 1989, and in the Philippines, where it has been active since 1984, FTCL has developed programs and activities that affect not just children but also families and communities. Experience in the two countries helped FTCL-Asia develop its capability in implementing a child-focused development program.

In the Philippines, among its major initiatives are the Integrated Child and Family Development Program (ICFDP), Bio-Diversity Resource Management for Sustainable Development Program (BRM-SDP)

and Community Banking: A Micro-Finance Program (CBMP). Both are designed to create the environment that would promote the child's welfare.

While ICFDP's impact on the children's well-being is obvious, how biodiversity management and community banking affect their development might not be as evident. But BRM-SDP aims to assist communities in developing sustainable production models that would ensure food security and protect natural resources for future generations. CBMP seeks to promote micro-entrepreneurship, help the poor gain access to credit and encourage the mobilization of savings to raise family incomes and living standards.

Even ICFDP has activities not directly aimed at the child but meant to make his/her home and community safer and more conducive to his/her proper growth and development. It tries to respond to the livelihood development needs of the family and to strengthen its ability to support the children.

Thailand also has a mix of activities directly benefiting the children or enhancing the families and communities' capacity and ability

to care for their young and promote their health and well-being. Assistance to children ranges from simply providing school supplies and health and medical services to vocational and livelihood training to equip them with income-generating skills.

Families and communities receive training in technologies that could boost their income, are assisted in developing microenterprises, and given the means to start a credit union.

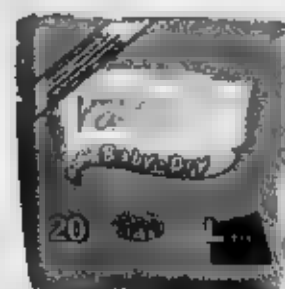
In both countries, FTCL has also responded in emergency situations, a major component of its interventions.

FTCL-Asia is now bringing its services and expertise to other parts of the region where many children are equally in distress. Its newest initiative in Asia is a program in Vietnam that seeks to promote child-friendly communes. Programs for other poor countries in the region where children's needs remain unanswered are being conceptualized.

As the programs extend their coverage and activities become more complex and multi-faceted, the need for funds grows. FTCL-Asia hopes to tap the generosity of Asians themselves to sustain and even increase gains made so far.



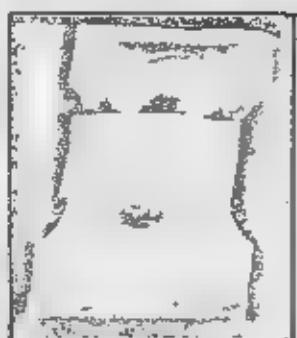
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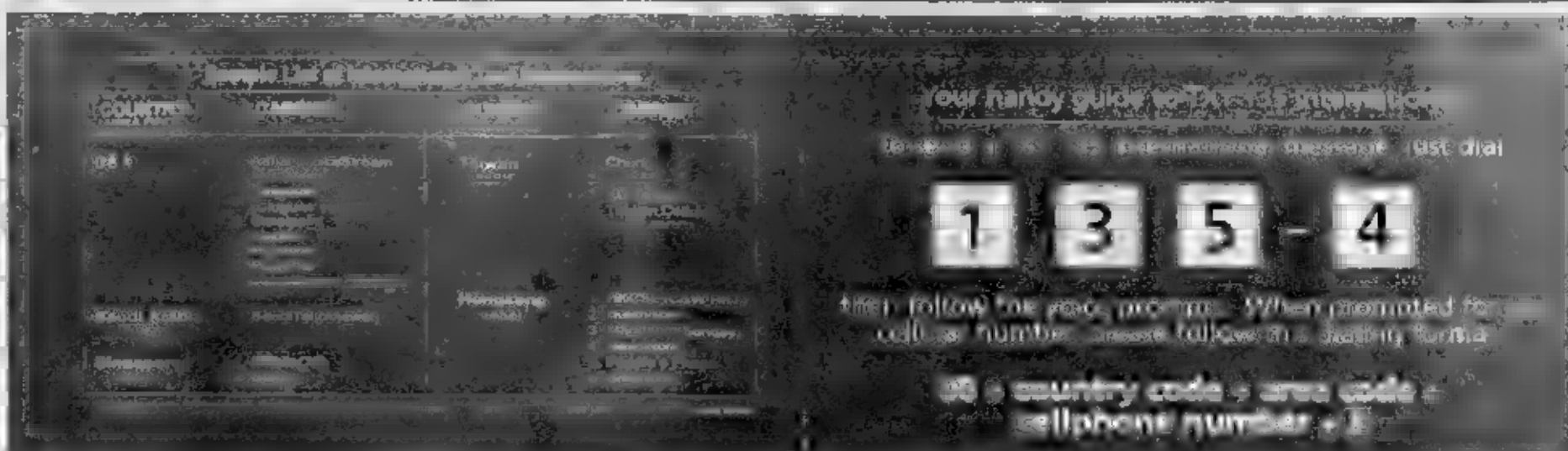
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Conversations with Neale Donald Walsch

(From page D1)

author, they knew they had something. It wound up being on the New York Times Bestseller List for over two-and-a-half years.

Was the writing continuous? It went from Book 1, then Book 2, Book 3?

Yes, in every sense it was, but there were great gaps in between. In the middle of what became Book 1 there was a six-month gap. But at the end of Book 1 it went right into what became Book 2.

What do you mean by the six-month gap?

Nothing was happening. Six months went by until I felt, well, I've lost it. Like losing a dream you try to remember. But after six months I was awakened in the middle of the night with the thought to get back to the paper. So I arose in the middle of the night, back to my legal pad, and I began writing right where I had left off. So when you read the book it's seamless. You can't tell that six-month break. It went from Book 1 to Book 2, and then it went from Book 2 to the beginning of Book 3. But after just a few paragraphs of Book 3, it took three years to write Book 3. It was very difficult because I couldn't find the space in my life to sit down quietly and have the experience I needed to have in order to bring.

Why was that?

I became involved in life on the ground, so to speak—real life, day-to-day life. I love the dramas of life. During the first two books, I kind of turned into a recluse. I wasn't doing a lot then. But the dramas of life really absorbed me completely for almost two-and-a-half years. I begged God during that time. I remember wailing, almost pleading, "God, why have I lost touch with You? Why have You left me?"

What was the answer?

"I haven't left you, you have left Me. If you will just give Me 15 minutes a day, you can always stay in touch with the Divine. But you don't even have 15 minutes a day. You think you're so busy with your dramas, your scenarios, your life, that in the living of your life you are

If you're extremely lucky, you come back on the other side of the cycle and you find yourself knowing at 80 what you knew at 8. The time in between, if you're not careful, can be a sure hell

actually dying, you're not really living."

Was that true?

Yes, absolutely true as I look back now. I'd never allow myself to have that experience again—being so far away, so disconnected from the Source. The message that I got out of that is that we can all stay connected with the source—to God or Divinity, or whatever you want to call it. We can all stay connected to the essence of life if we just give ourselves permission to do so. But we get so caught up in the dramas, in the momentary activities that we think are really important—I gotta pay the bills, get the car, get the girl, get the guy, get the promotion. We're in the getting business. But God told me life is not all getting, life is for giving. I mean that two ways.

Wasn't the reason you started a journal because your life was the pits?

Yes, absolutely. Desperation was why I started this process. Why do I deserve a life of such continuing, endless struggle? Like, somebody tell me the rules. I'll play, just tell me the rules. That was what I was thinking about when I first started it.

What were the rules you realized after the first book?

The rules were so simple I was astonished I had gone through my life without understanding them.

They are taught by every religion, by all the world's spiritual traditions, and by every indigenous spiritual practice.

The rules are simply oneness, that we are all one, and you must act as if we are all one. The Christian Church teaches that, through a different articulation—you are your brother's keeper.

The second rule is the rule of sufficiency, that there really is enough for everybody, and if you act as if there were enough, you will eliminate all the conflicts from your life. The only reason there is conflict between individuals as well as nations is because we think there is not enough of the stuff that we need to be happy with...

The third is, there is nothing I have to do. That in truth, life springs from a place of being-ness, not a place of doing-ness. Life is not merely so much about what you're doing as it is about what you're being while you're doing whatever you're doing. Are you being kind? Gentle? Compassionate? Understanding? Fear? When life springs from being-ness, the things you are doing remain the same, the way you do them becomes different. And that's how life changes for the better.

The last and fourth rule is to eliminate any thought of superiority, as my mind. That superiority is human fiction and has nothing to do with ultimate reality. There's no such thing as "better"—blacks are not better than whites; whites are not better than blacks; Filipinos are not better than Americans; Americans are not better than Japanese; girls are not better than boys; rich are not better than poor. The idea of better-ness, of superiority, is the most seductive idea ever to the human race. In fact, I was given a single sentence that God said would change the world, if it were spoken from our pulpits, if the Pope would say it, if the Moslems would say it, if the Buddhist would say it, if a political party would say it, if every nation would say it to every other nation, the conflict in the world would end. This simple sentence was, "Ours is not a better way, ours

is simply another way." There's more than one way to get to God, to get back home, to run a nation, to solve our problems. We keep on thinking that, not only is there one way, but worse yet, our way is that one way, and our way is better, and if you don't agree I have the right to kill you. That's how we've run our lives on this planet.

They're tough rules. All religions teach them but it's been hard to observe all of them.

That's because we are afraid. If we eliminate fear from our experience, we no longer find the rules tough to follow. What causes us to find it so tough to follow is, we are afraid. We begin by being desperately afraid of God: "Displease God and we're going straight to hell."

Yes, that was what we were taught as kids.

I understand. I was taught the same thing. But God gave me a message in the beginning of this dialog. In one sentence God's message would be: "You got Me all wrong. I wouldn't punish you for your mistakes. I would forgive you. Love forgives and fear punishes... You can't possibly hurt Me because I Am the all in all. I Am the all-knowing, I Am the all-present, the all-loving. And nothing you could ever do could possibly hurt Me. I will forgive you, even your worst sins." That is the promise of every great religion—that even your worst sins be forgiven. Yet what God promises us, we cannot give unto each other. We cannot give each other forgiveness because we are afraid. We're even afraid God won't forgive us because we don't understand God.

When I was 11 years old, in a catechism class, I asked a question only an 11-year-old would dare ask: "Father, what happens if a 2-hour-old baby dies, God forbid, after birth? Surely this baby will go right to Heaven." And the priest said, "Not necessarily." "How could it not?" "Well, if it wasn't baptized it wouldn't go to Heaven."

At the age of 11 my mind was trying to wrap around the idea of a God who would say to a 2-hour-old picture of innocence, "I'm sorry you



didn't do it right. It's not even that you didn't do it right, your parents didn't do it right. You didn't even have any control over it. It's too bad, sad, but that's the kind of God I Am." I was asked to believe in the unbelievable. I was asked to believe in a God that was beyond cruel. It's an insane belief...

Because we have created a whole mythology about a God of anger and retribution, we have allowed ourselves to treat each other in the same way.

Do you have a religion?

Unconditional love. I belong to a religion of love that knows no condition.

But you were born Catholic?

Yes, I was baptized Catholic.

Do you believe that the Bible is God's word?

Yes. I also believe that the Koran is God's word. I believe that the Book of Mormon is God's word. I don't believe that God spoke through only one scripture. There are 378 known religions in the planet and it is inconceivable that only one of them is right. Only a closed mind would assume that.

What was the process like when

you were doing the book? Were you hearing voices? Was it in your dream? When you sat down, did the thoughts come freely?

It was both of the first and the third. Sometimes I would actually hear what I would call a voiceless voice. It was a voice but it didn't have any particular characteristic. It wasn't male, female, young, old. It was just a voice I would seem to be hearing. Most often, as the process continues, and I do this work to this very day, I receive thoughts in my mind of what I'd like to think as inspirations. I take those inspirations and write them immediately before I forget them or before I could even disagree with them.

When you are receiving messages, do you measure them against any religion?

The intention was not to measure them against anything. However, I have received letters from all religions, and here's something interesting. I find this absolutely fascinating. Christians say to me: "I find so much of the teachings of Christ in your writing." Moslems

CONVERSATIONS/ p.D3

ROBINSONS PLACE RESIDENCES

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Thirty-eight floors of the most strategic and well-appointed addresses in downtown Manila, the soaring Robinsons Place Residences in Padre Faure displays the city at its finest, with its stunning view of the world famous Manila Bay on one side and the breathtaking view of the city's skyline on the other.

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Conversations with Neale Donald Walsch

(From page D2)

say to me: "Islamic faith is represented in your writing." Buddhists say to me: "This is the teaching of Buddha." Hindus say to me: "If there ever was a new articulation of the basic understandings of Hinduism, your books are it." From all over the world, in 27 languages... people see themselves there no matter what their religion is. They've done the comparative theology for me. I don't really have to do it. My purpose is not to write something and that after it was written check out against the 533 known sacred scriptures on the planet...

Have you read the Bible and have you had the chance to go over the Koran also?

Of course, I have read the Bible. I've read portions of all of the world's greatest scriptures and I've done a lot of work in comparative theology. I've read the works of other researchers who have done the work for me and have shown me how the great theologians of the world agree on the essential elements of life's truth. Here is an essential element—you cannot find one religion on the planet that doesn't agree with the following statement: "We are alike."

If existing religions are not afraid of offending God, is there still a concept of sin? Or are we free to do as we please?

We are free to do anything we want without fear of punishment, but not without consequence. The typical thing most people have in their minds is, they cannot separate the consequence from the punishment. God is not punitive.

There is a consequence, but not a punishment. There's a difference, and teach your children the difference. If children think consequences are punishments, they'll turn out one way. But if your children understand that consequences are not punishments but merely results, they'll turn out another way.

God doesn't say, "Okay, let's see now. You three died in a plane crash. You had 648 sins on your soul, you had 522 sins on your soul, and you have 3,455 sins on your soul. So you're gonna be punished a little more, you're gonna suffer." God is not gonna say, "How can I make you suffer for God? After all, 3,000 sins is a lot of sins." That's not how it is but that's what we teach our children. God does not deliberately cause you to suffer because of your sins. What will happen, however, in this life and in the afterlife, is that you will have the opportunity to experience the consequence—everything that you have done, both good and so-called evil.

Here's the consequence, I'm told, that we'll experience after death. At the moment of our death, we are invited to experience and we choose to experience what is known as life review. In Eastern mystical traditions it is known as *kamalocca*. The idea of *kamalocca* is, at the moment of your death you move through every single moment of your life. You relive every moment, but not from your point of view, but from the point of view of everyone who was affected by what you thought, said and did at that moment. You get to experience what other people experienced as the result of you. If that doesn't change your behavior, nothing [else] will. Even thinking about that causes me to move through my life in an entirely different way.

And yet the understanding that I have is, when we move through this experience of *kamalocca*, it is not suffering. It is comprehension, understanding.

Ultimately, we experience what we caused others to experience. Therefore, when we begin to love others unconditionally, when we begin to forgive others for the things we haven't forgiven ourselves for, when we begin to touch other people's lives in the way our lives would want to be touched, when we call what turns out to be after all the Golden Rule. Do unto others as you would have it done unto you, because it will be done unto you sooner or later. Suddenly your life changes, the way you live your life changes, and you discover that the best way to live is to love people without condition because that is the essence of life, love and God. That is God living through you.

Do you find that your readers are older?

No. We have readers of all ages. We receive up to 600 letters a week and we have an extraordinarily wide demographic... So many teenagers, in fact, that I've been asked by my publisher to write a book, "Conversations with God for Teens," which I am in the process of writing. I need to finish that book by Sept. 1... I'm discovering right now that 15-, 16-, 17-year-olds look at the world and they don't understand why we don't already know these [CWG contents]. Eight-year-olds will look at you and say, "Why would you even do that? Why would you even hate each other? Why would you even solve your problems that way?" It turns out that growing up is not a way to get wise. It's a way to forget what you knew as a child. Children come into the world with enormous wisdom. They understand that love is all there is. And then the world disabuses them of that notion, the world teaches them otherwise. If you're extremely lucky, you come back on the other side of the cycle and you find yourself knowing at 80 what you knew at 8. The time in between, if you're not careful, can be a sure hell.

Why are your books such a phenomenon?

Because the world has lost patience with itself at the turn of the millennium... I don't think it was a coincidence that my book and other books like it, "Celestine Prophecy" by James Redfield, books by Deepak Chopra, as well as more traditional, spiritual literature—sales of the Bible shot up like crazy at the turn of the millennium, check your statistics—all books dealing with spiritual questions became extraordinarily popular as the millennium shifted. It was a natural tendency for human beings to look at themselves, to question themselves and to reevaluate their experience and to say, "Okay, there has got to be another way for us to live together. This can't be the way it was meant to be. We're nicer than that, more loving than that." So, by the way, is God.

If you had written this book 20 years ago, would it have gotten the same reception?

Not even 10 or five years ago. I'm absolutely so clear the timing of all this as well as everything else that is happening on our planet is perfect. That's why we have seen in the past 15 or 20 years the breakup of the Soviet Union, the disillusionment of many of our deeply embedded systems of government and economy and spirituality—it's all falling apart. There's another reason as well, and that is the quality of what I call our "instaparency." I coined it. It's instant transparency. The Internet has created "instaparency" in the world. It is not virtually impossible for us to not know whatever we would choose to know. There's no secret anymore. When you have opened the system of the data transfer, when you have open-systems communication, you have a much higher level of inquisitiveness than when you did not. To put it simply, knowledge is power. So books such as mine and many others like it have become extremely popular at a time when we are acutely aware that additional knowledge is additional power...

In the 1800s, a person could live an entire lifetime and not have any data come to him that would cause him to change his basic life view. Now it's difficult for a person to live within 10 or

20 years—if you get 20 years that's a lot—holding on to a particular view before something comes along that changes everything. They tell us that in the future the window of stability will be reduced to 12 months, that every 12-18 months some enormous shift in the data will change the whole ground of being.

Our window of stability is gonna be very short and this is gonna create some economic, philosophical, spiritual and political upheaval as we begin to understand that it is no longer possible to hold on to a particular idea or point of view throughout one's lifetime. We find out that Ernest Hemingway was right after all, "Life is a movable feast." We have to be light on our feet, flexible and constantly open to ideas. This is a very exciting time to be in because we realize we are truly creating our own reality. The answer to your question is all the factors I have given you. Thirty years ago it would not have been read.

Twenty years ago they would have called you arrogant to even say you've had a conversation with God.

I believe so. This was the right book at the right time.

CONVERSATIONS/p.D6





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TOASTING TITO. Former President Fidel V. Ramos and First Gentleman Mike Arroyo toast Vice President Gungona.

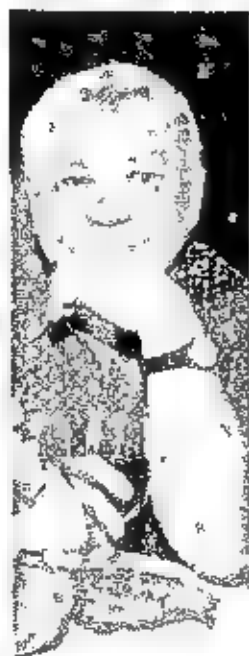


IN DEEP THOUGHT. Former President Corazon Aquino

A tribute to Tito



NEOPHYTE Sen.
Kiko Pangilinan



SEN. Joker Arroyo

HE had originally planned on a quiet getaway with his family on his birthday but that was not to be the case. The Friends of Tito, a group composed of Vice President Tito Gungona's old friends and classmates from the Ateneo had planned on giving him a surprise party and told his only daughter, Marie, about it. Planning was done in three days and, under the guise of a meeting with Sen. Joker Arroyo, the VP was whisked off to the Manila Polo Club on the



EDU Manzano



PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo chats up well-wishers.



STANDING BY HER MAN. Ruth Gungona watches her Tito blow his birthday candles

night of July 3—the eve of his birthday.

Great surprise came over Tito when he was met at the door by family and friends. "No, no, I'm here for a meeting," the shocked Vice President said. Laterally dragged into the ballroom, he was visibly touched by the outpouring of love that came from close to 800 guests who filled the main ballroom that evening. President Macapagal, whom protocol dictates need

not wait for anyone, stood with the rest of the crowd to greet Tito as he entered the room. Former Presidents Cory Aquino and Fidel V. Ramos, his colleagues from the Senate and Congress were also there.

It was clearly a gathering of the nation's brightest and finest who turned out that evening to pay tribute to a man they all love and respect as he marked another year.



FORMER House Speaker Joe de Venecia

7 priests mark 25th anniversary of ordination

SEVEN priests from various parishes of Palawan will celebrate the 25th anniversary of their sacerdotal ordination at the San Jose Parish Church in San Jose, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan on July 11.

The priests are Msgr. Edgardo S. Juanch, parish priest of El Nido, Palawan, who hails from Taytay, Palawan, Fr. Zoilo Deslate, chancellor of the Apostolic Vicariate of Palawan and parish priest of San Jose, who comes from Jaro, Iloilo, Fr. Armando R. Lamsa, chair of the Commission on Social and Special Concerns of the Vicariate who is from Iman, Aborlan, Palawan, Fr. Pepito I. Rollo, parish priest of Aborlan who originates from Sto. Rosario, Maricao, Aklan; Fr. Romulo A. Javarez, parish priest of Curamay in Roxas who is a native of Lucban, Puerto Princesa, Palawan; Fr. Antonio F. Nopasa of Magao, Iloilo, and Fr. Hernando D. Denolo of Pres. Roxas, Capiz, who are both assigned in the Archdiocese of Manila.

The Eucharistic celebration will be presided over by Most Rev. Bishop Jose S. Palma, D.D., S.T.D. of the Diocese of Calbayog, Western Samar, who was a fellow seminarian of the priest celebrants. He will be assisted by Most Rev. Bishop Francisco C. San Diego, D.D., J.C.L. of the Diocese of San Pablo, who was formerly the Bishop of Palawan, and by Rev. Bishop Pedro D. Argo, D.D. the present bishop of the Apostolic Vicariate of Palawan.

The seven priests graduated from high school at the Seminario de San Jose in Puerto Princesa. They studied Philosophy at the Seminario Metropolitano de San Vicente Ferrer in Jaro, Iloilo and graduated in Theology from the St. Joseph Regional Seminary in Greenfield, Jaro, Iloilo. They were ordained on July 11, 1976.

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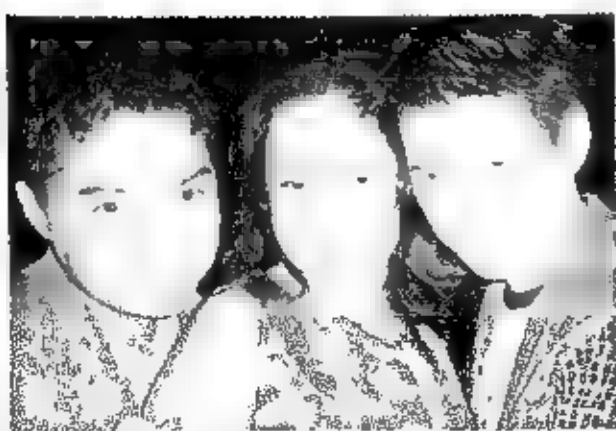
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Absolutely fabulous

SWEDEN is renowned for Volvo cars, Electrolux home appliances, Ikea furniture, Björn Borg fashion and Absolut vodka.

Now, there is the flavored vodka called Absolut Mandarin which has become a hit in the United States.

The launch at the NBC tent last week was just fabulous. Models were dressed in horoscope symbols. But the piece de resistance was the huge Absolut bottle decked in oranges which came out of the roof complete with acrobats reminiscent of Cirque de Soleil.

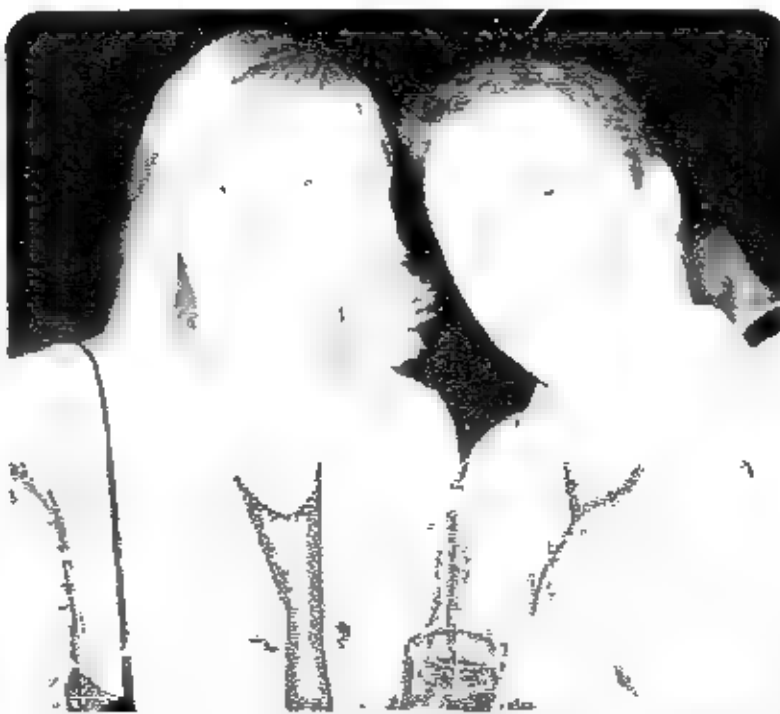
Bosses Eva Hedberg, Linn Sandberg, Ted McDonald and Chiqui Tan Torres were happy with the party launch which was directed by Erich Edralin, who has brought us unforgettable rave and foam parties.

It was a great launch and Absolut Mandarin was truly delicious.

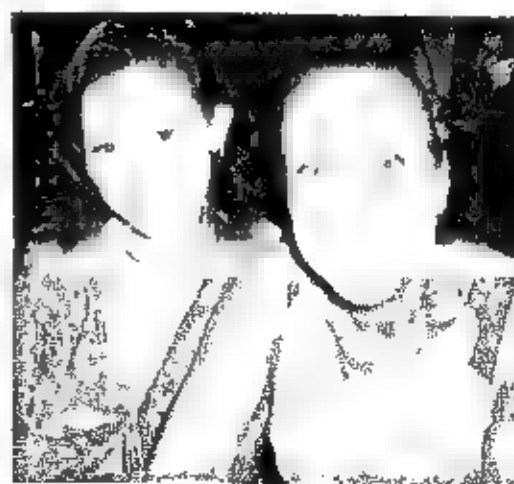
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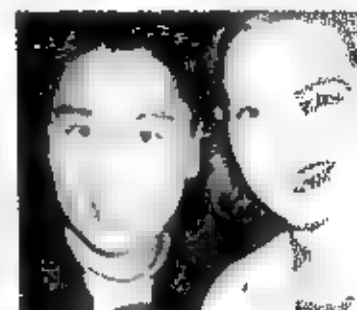
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Conversations with Neale Donald Walsch

(From page D3)

right time, and the right way of saying the right things, which is that there is no such thing as right. All wrong. (Laughs)

How do you pray and converse with God?

I'm doing it right now. I believe God exists in everyone and everything. So even as I speak with you I'm having a conversation with God. But to answer your question more directly and try not to dance around you, I pray in the ways everybody prays and in some ways no one has thought of. I haven't stopped praying in the normal way. I also pray in the so-called normal way, as in, "Oh God, help me to get past this problem. Bring me some help here now." I pray like I used to pray as a child. Anything you do with joy and love or earnestness or purity in your heart is a prayer. In fact, God said to me something very astonishing in the book, "Everything you do is a prayer. Everything you think is a prayer. Everything you say is a prayer that will be answered by the universe. Therefore look upon what you are thinking and doing in a new way because the universe is a great big Xerox machine, sending you back what it is you are thinking, saying and doing and duplicating it in your experience." You asked how do I pray? My answer would be, through my life lived. And what I get in my life is the same with my prayer. And that is a wonderful sentence. The living of my life is the same as my prayer.

Do you have a favorite charity?

I don't have a favorite charity. There are far too many good ones for me to favor one over the others.

But you do have a foundation where you do the work...

Yes, but it's not necessarily my favorite charity.

But you have a foundation that you support.

The foundation exists as a response mechanism and as a vehicle in which we hope to place in the world practical, functioning programs that illustrate and make workable the principles and the

After death, you relive every moment [of your life]... from the point of view of everyone who was affected by what you thought, said and did at that moment... If that doesn't change your behavior, nothing [else] will

messages in CWG. We respond to many hundreds of letters, phone calls and incoming e-mail every week from people asking for more information on these subjects. We have a books-for-prisoners program, a program that helps people on the street called Home Street Home, and other programs as well that we hope will help us to functionalize the messages in CWG.

Have you ever asked God why bad things happen to good people and why bad people seem to advance in life?

Yes.

So what's the answer?

(Ponders) Nothing occurs in the life of every individual which is not perfectly placed in time and space for the evolution of the human soul. All things that occur to us occur to us and that we call forth the exact perfect people in the midst, allowing us to experience ourselves at the next highest expression of who we really are. The idea of victims and villains is eliminated from the experience of life through the knowledge that, as God said to me in CWG, "I have seen you nothing but angels and brought you nothing but miracles."

Have you always worn a beard?

Or did that come after the book?

No, I've worn the beard for 35



years, since I was 25 years old.

I just thought you might be complementing the spirituality of the book.

(Chuckles) No.

Is there a lot of marketing going on about CWG? Spin-off products?

No. There's not much marketing going around the book because the book sells. We don't have spin-off products. We have produced, as a result of requests, the same message in different forms. For instance, some people can hear better than they can read, so we had audio books on tapes. Whenever I go out and do the talk, we hear people say, "Gosh, I wish I had recorded this." So now we make recordings out of it and we sell those. And we have the website as well. In my mind they're not spin-off products but other articulations of the same basic message using all kinds of media and

taking advantage of the fact that we live in a multimedia world. The website is www.conversations-withgod.org, quite predictably. We have a new exciting learning tool which we call "Conversations with God: The Journey," a collection of quotations from the book set to contemporary new music for the young people. The teenagers love it.

Of the many letters you have gotten because of CWG, is there one that is really memorable?

Absolutely (Chuckles) I got a letter from a lady once who simply wrote, "Thank you for introducing me to a God I can fall in love with." She became a member of my staff. I never forgot that. That letter just put in my consciousness what we had done here. We had created the worldwide experience of a God whom you could fall in love with, whether you're Islamic, Moslem, Catholic or Protestant—it didn't

matter anymore. This is a God you could fall in love with and when you can fall in love with God, we can fall in love at last with each other, and that would change the world.

Is there an end to the series? Do you have the next one planned?

I have no plan whatsoever and I can't imagine the day will ever come that I'll stop writing. It seems like I can't help myself. I can't stop it nor do I want to stop. I'm like a kid in a candy store. I'm afraid I'm gonna have to tell you I'll be writing till the day I die.

Do you think you're gonna go into fiction?

Yes, I have several fiction books—five or six. The entire plot line has already been given to me in terms of inspiration, and I know the facts of all of it. They're all books dealing with practical application. It uses fictional plots to illustrate the practical application of spiritual truths. My problem is, so little time, so many books to write.

That would be good, to have a practical application. How would you get it across to a man who has three kids and lives in the slum area, who's always being threatened with eviction and does not have food on the table?

I wouldn't try to teach a person living in that situation at a personal level the esoteric wisdom that is contained in any of the world's spiritual literature. I would in fact seek to demonstrate by the way I assisted in finding the opportunity to do so in your lives. The Catholic Church understands this perfectly well. You don't go out and preach the Gospel till you fill the belly. It's impossible, pointless to try to do otherwise. That's why the Catholic Church has become the most effective and powerful force for social change than any religion in the planet. They understand deeply that you cannot begin to discuss higher values until the basic elements of survival are taken care of.

But you wrote the book when you were hungry and homeless.

Yes, but desperation is not recommended. I rather like the approach of Mother Teresa. If I were

asked to spend time there, I would walk into those villages, places and homes and hopefully act out what it is I seek to teach.

Have you done that... in any country?

I haven't done it in any country, but I'd like to think that my life lived, to some degree at least, is a walking example of the truth I have been given. I believe the people who know me would say that the way I lived my life, the generosity of which I share of that which is mine, and the other actions and decisions that I take are reflections of the books.

You are so calm and cool and collected. Does anything panic or pain you?

To be really honest with you, no, not much. I wouldn't say that if somebody walked in here with a machete right now I wouldn't be as upset as everyone else in the room. But in truth, no strains in life upset or bother me anymore because I don't want anything in particular. I live outside of the space of expectation and I require nothing in particular to be happy. And because that's true, it doesn't matter to me how any particular moment is expressed or experienced.

Would you wish to have an audience with the Pope? What would you say to him?

I don't particularly wish to have an audience with the Pope anymore than I wish have an audience with the Dalai Lama or George Bush, who is equally misguided. (Laughter) No! Just a little joke there. But if I were to sit down with the Pope, I would thank him for his commitment and dedication to service to all humankind. I would honor him for his deep belief and the love from which he has expressed his life. I would praise him for the extraordinary ways he has used his years. Then I would ask him if he would be open to looking at the idea of God in a larger way with me. If he said yes, we would have a most interesting discussion which I would say to him, "Holy Father, consider the possibility that ours is not a better way. Ours is merely another way to get to God."

Cookie bandits strike again

New Hershey City—Unidentified cookie bandits carted away jarsful of freshly baked cookies for the second time in two weeks in several dozen homes across the city.

Distraught mothers discovered the latest wave of banditry early yesterday morning. Almost all police outposts throughout New Hershey City received reports early Friday morning of cookies vanishing from supposedly secured cookie jars. The huge number of complaints prompted the police chief of New Hershey to order a full-scale investigation on the widespread and mysterious disappearance of freshly baked cookies from hundreds of homes. The official police spokesperson ruled out aliens or giant ants behind the disappearances saying it is too early in the investigation to come up with a solid theory but added, "all leads, preposterous or not, are being explored."

Several mothers whose cookie jars have been emptied recalled having firmly locked their cupboards before going to bed. One mother even swore she set up elaborate high-tech alarm systems around her cupboard to protect her full of exotic cookie jars. She woke up the next morning to find her jars empty. Her expensive cookies were tiny cookie crumbs.

The missing cookies of New Hershey City have spawned a host of theories on who are the culprits behind the disappearance. They range from the scientific, like a magnetic field that attracts the dough used in making cookies, to the downright insane like a deranged

clown that was deprived of cookies when he was a child.

Reliable sources revealed that the police are following a vital lead regarding the case. For one, all the households that have lost their cookies also have Hershey's Kisses in their cupboard. Sources said although the police believed the Kisses have something to do with the missing cookies, they have to establish a firmlink.

Meanwhile, some homeowners have begun to organize themselves into groups to patrol the vicinity of their neighborhoods to prevent such thefts from happening again. In some places, window grilles were seen being installed in several homes while in other parts of the city, sales of guard dogs have gone up. This prompted the office of the mayor to issue a statement urging citizens to remain calm and that situation is under control. The statement added, "It's just a matter of time before the long arm of the law catches the bandits and hopefully have your cookies returned to your jars."

Cookie bandits first struck a neighborhood southwest of New Hershey. In that incident, two dozen homes awakened to empty cookie jars that were reportedly full the night before. Residents of that community believe the bandits will strike for the third time and advise their fellow citizens to lock away their cookies in a steel vault while the perpetrators are still loose.



Revving up car maintenance



CALTEX introduces Xpress Lube, a professionally run lube center that caters to the busy individual.

A one-stop, service-in-a-rush lube bay, it has 26 outlets and 24 more opening by the end of the year. Xpress Lube is a regular cuss with a clean environment, complemented by tools and equipment of the highest standards. "A supervisory check is done on a regular basis to ensure the efficiency of the equipment," according to Arrow Arceña, Xpress Lube category manager. Quality control is the first order of the rule at Caltex.

Mechanics of the Xpress Lubes are highly trained individuals. Every mechanic undergoes a 15-day training at the Caltex Training Center. Even dealers, managers and supervisors undergo a week of intensive training in customer relations and personality development.

Another feature in the Xpress Lube is the use of oil packages such as the Caltex Havoline Energy. "This," according to Lorna de Jesus, Caltex Xpress Lube category manager, "is for gasoline engines and is of higher grade than the ordinary engine oil because of its fuel-saving engine oil."

Patrons of the Xpress Lube are entitled to the Xpress Lube Card that gives them automatic 10 percent discount on change oil packages and 5 percent discount on other services. Everybody can avail of the discount card for a minimum of P100.

Hot collector's car items

REMEMBER our childhood days when we were enjoying our very first sets of Hotwheels and Matchbox? Contrary to the blister packs you're seeing nowadays, Hotwheels and Matchbox were bought in special cartons now considered as collectors' items. But nonetheless, kids enjoy the same toys despite its different packaging.

Matchbox started earlier than Hotwheels. Hotwheels began to hit the market in 1968 as Mattel's answer to the demands of consumers for faster and more detailed cars. Soon after came the newly improved Matchbox to match the fast-moving Hotwheels. Since then, Hotwheels and Matchbox had been a household name for die-cast cars not only in the United States but around the world. Hotwheels is also known for its superior quality as compared to its competitor die-casts.

Hotwheels and Matchbox are exclusively distributed by Richwell Trading Corp. in the Philippines.

Hotwheels recently launched its Free Caps Promotion wherein for every P500 single receipt purchase of Hotwheels and Matchbox products, a customer may automatically claim their free Hotwheels cap.

Matchbox and Hotwheels Philippine Collectors Society is an organization of collectors which was established on March 1999 with the help of Richwell's chief operating officer Myrna T. Yao. This became a

reality when a group of Hotwheels and Matchbox collectors began to approach Richwell Trading Corp. to establish an organization which would cater to the needs and wants of the collectors.

Year 2001 is another banner year not only because of the much anticipated MHPCS Convention, but it's also the year when Hotwheels signed up actor Onemig Bondoc to be its Hotwheels Man for the entire year.

June 16 and 17 marked another significant event for the young organization when Richwell Trading Corp. decided to hold its first MHPCS (Matchbox and Hotwheels Philippine Collector's Society Convention). Highlighting the newest Hotwheels and Matchbox products were special discounts, arcade games like the Hotwheels Driving Challenge and the Basketball Shootout, the Hotwheels Interactive Area and the Hotwheels Collector's Exhibit. The Hotwheels and Matchbox Collector's Exhibit was prepared by five members of the MHPCS, namely Willy Malay, Dodie Ruiz, Bickford Yee, lawyer Frank Koh and Raymond Reyes. Present during the unveiling of the collector's exhibit were Freddie M. Garcia, ABS-CBN president, assisted by his son, Miguel Garcia, key accounts specialist of marketing and sales, ABS-CBN, actor and Hotwheels Man Onemig Bondoc and Richwell's Alberto S. Yao, president, and Myrna T. Yao, chief operating officer.

New breed of Kiss has chocolate cookie bits in DNA

KISSISSIPPI—Researchers at the Kisses Research Institute have come across a new breed of Kisses that packs more chocolate in their internal structure. The discovery is the result of a two-year study that aimed to find out why some Kisses have exhibited a marked change in their appearance which is characterized by a dark brown tint with goldstreaks around their bodies.

According to scientists involved in the study, these Kisses which are now known as Crunchy Cookie Kisses, have a darker chocolate for a body and bits of chocolate cookies inside them. The striking difference from the normal silver Kisses becomes apparent when chocolate lovers taste the Crunchy Cookie Kisses. The new Kisses are found to taste richer and is more playful inside the mouth because of the chocolate cookie bits.

Although the study unravelled the reason why a Crunchy Cookie Kiss looks and tastes different from the silver Kiss, it hasn't answered how its structure suddenly mutated to become more chocolate. The sudden appearance of Crunchy Cookie Kisses came as a surprise for many chocolate lovers. No one knows where they came from and they came in such huge numbers. Leading scientists have put forth several theories on their origins, from the idea of mutant Kisses to a simple genetic aberration. So far, all have yet to be verified. Among the more popular theories is the Dormant

Chocolate Gene Theory.

According to this theory, a single silver Kiss has been carrying a strand of DNA that has more chocolate in it. This strand has been dormant in the silver Kisses' biological lineage for generations until it married a chocolate cookie. Because of the chocolate cookie's big number of chocolate DNA, the resulting offspring has been blessed with a darker, richer structure.

The theory would have amply explained the origin of the Crunchy Cookie Kiss except those Crunchy Cookie Kisses appeared so suddenly and in huge quantities. One theory suggests that these Crunchy Cookie Kisses are actually the lost tribes of Kissrael. Scientists point to the vast, unexplored regions of Hershey as the possible habitat of these lost Kisses tribes. The prolonged isolation of Crunchy Cookie

Kisses from the world of the silver Kiss allowed them to evolve into Kisses with more chocolate in them to counter the more discriminating chocolate lovers in those regions of Hershey. However, it was a snag because the Crunchy Cookie Kisses are really the lost tribes of Kissrael, they must speak ancient Hershey. But their language is pure, modern Hershey—the language of the silver Kiss.

Until now, researchers are still looking for clues on their origins but so far, they have faced a blank wall.

Stephen Hershing, a leading astrophysicist and

author of the best-selling book, "A Brief History of Time," is putting forth the most radical theory of all. He thinks that Crunchy Cookie Kisses are actually the offspring of extraterrestrials and earth bound silver Kisses. He points out their sudden appearance in huge numbers and the high concentration of chocolate DNA in their structure as evidence of an alien lineage. He says only alien Kisses have the capacity to breed so rapidly and to evolve to become more chocolate in such a short time.

Critics have cautioned Hershing on putting forth such a radical theory, warning him of mass hysteria and the total breakdown of chocolate dogma. But Hershing countered that on the contrary, chocolate lovers would have a deeper understanding of the chocolate universe, knowing fully well that there's a different kind of Kiss somewhere out there. He added that learning that the silver Kiss is not alone after all, makes chocolate lovers in tune and one with the universe.

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Chocolate cookie bits in milk chocolate.
Crunchy Cookie Kiss.



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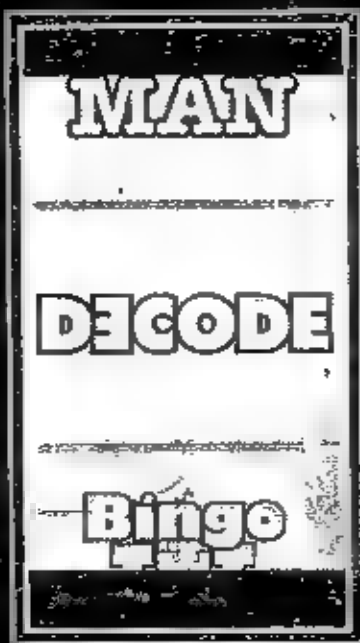
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Touch of Zen for a dream wedding

Lawyer King Reyno proposed to broadcaster Vicky Morales in Bangkok. At the Oriental Hotel's lounge, he played the piano and sang 'Reaching Out'

(Story on page E4)

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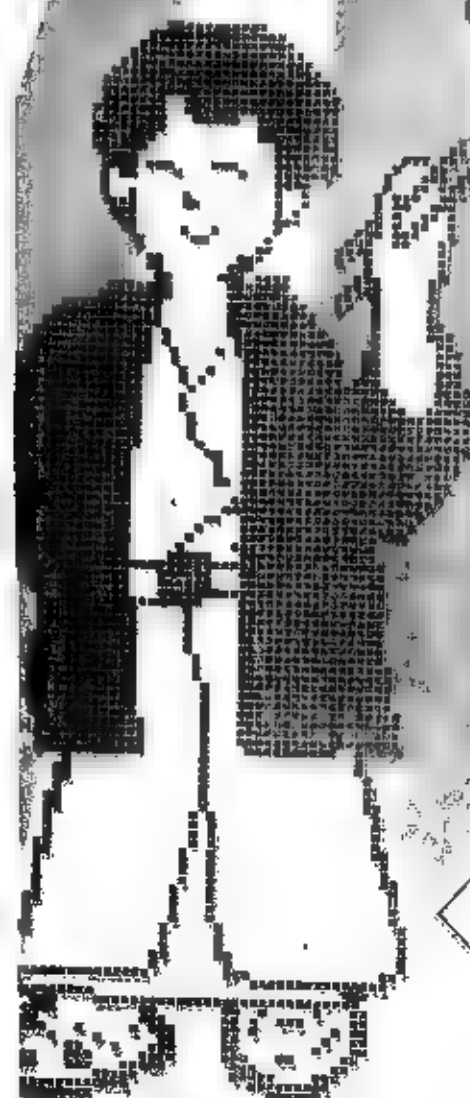
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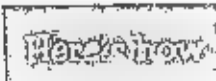
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**ONG-SOBREPEÑA**

Mr. and Ms Enrique Sobrepeña III announce the wedding of their daughter Anna to Erickson Ong, son of Mr. and Ms James Ong, on July 15. Ceremonies and reception will be at the Dusit Hotel's Grand Ballroom. Ben Farrales designed the bride's gown and those of her entourage.

MIL-MENDIOLA

Jojet Mil, son of Dr Alfredo and Julieta Mil of Dinalupihan, Bataan and Labao, Pampanga, and Ma. Josefa Cordero Mendiola, daughter of Camilo and Leonila Mendiola of Tanauan, Batangas and Narvacan, Ilocos Sur, will tie the knot on July 15 at the Basilica de San Sebastian in Manila. Reception will be at the Manila Diamond Hotel.

The couple are both professional dentists. Ivan de la Cruz, a family friend of the bride, designed the bridal gown and those of the entourage.

**Milestones**

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

**VALENCIA DEBUT**

Ella Valencia, daughter of Lt. Col. Emeterio and Teresita O. Valencia, will celebrate her 18th birthday on Aug. 4 at Lupa City Royale.

A BSC-Management student at De La Salle, Lupa, Ella will be escorted by Jason Lorzano, son of Maj. and Ms Hermogenes Lorzano.

Ella's gown is designed by Janine V. Hernandez. Hair and makeup by Edy Rosales. Choreography Jun A. Magana.

**CARINO DEBUT**

Charlene Cariño, daughter of Leopoldo and Marilyn Cariño, celebrated her 18th birthday on July 2 at the Crown Center K.C.M.O.

**SALVADOR DEBUT**

Katrina Salvador, eldest daughter of Mayor Rolando and Ms Evelyn Salvador of Baliuag, Bulacan, celebrates her 18th birthday today at the Rizal Ballroom of Makati Shangri-La.

**VIRAY-SANTOS**

Mark Anthony Viray, son of Julieta L. Viray and the late Benjamin R. Viray, married Maria Victoria Santos, daughter of Cesar and Remedios Santos, on June 9 at San Sebastian Cathedral, Lupa City. It was officiated by Fr Joseph Rodena C. Ramos. Reception followed at Club Victorina, Base View Homes, Lupa City.

**ABANDO-TAULE**

Rudolf Rhonadale P. Abando, son of Venancio and Natividad Abando, will wed Sally T. Taule, daughter of Rudy and Billy C. Taule, on July 18 at the San Agustin Church. Reception will follow at the Pandango Ballroom of the Manila Hotel. Fe P. Dequilla designed the bridal gown.

**BERNARDO-ENRIQUEZ**

Dr. Edwin C. Bernardo, son of Valentino and Bibiana Bernardo, will exchange marriage vows with Ma. Michelle R. Enriquez, daughter of Guillermo and Edita Enriquez, on July 22 at the Shrine of Jesus The Way, The Truth and The Life, Pasay City. Reception will follow at the ballroom of the Wesun Philippine Plaza. The bride will wear a gown by Mita Santiago-de Leon.

SAJBAN-DY

Ma. Fe Evelyn Rosalia M. Dy, daughter of Francisco Dy Jr. and Fatima Sario Maniquis, will marry Matthew James Sajban, son of James and Ruth Sajban of Indiana, USA. Both are graduates of Purdue University where Evelyn took up hotel and restaurant management and Matt took up computer science.

The bride will wear a white spaghetti-strapped gown with a low-cut back. The bodice will be embroidered with rosettes and three colors of Swarovski crystals. The ensemble, created by Renée Salud, is highlighted by a Spanish-inspired veil held by a two-band tura.

The couple will reside in Santa Clara, California, USA.

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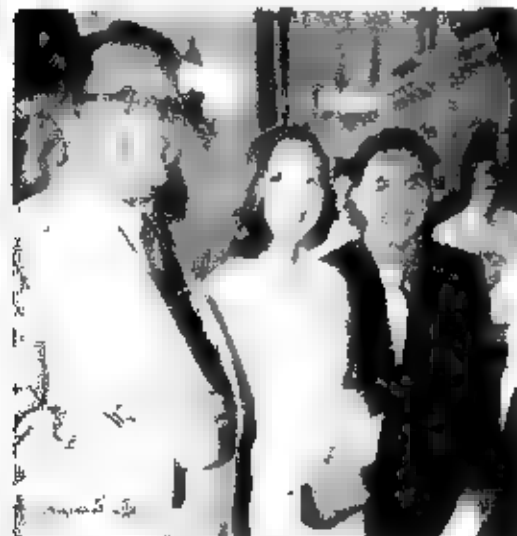
Touch of Zen for a dream wedding

BY LEAH SALTERIO

VICKY Morales never dreamed she'd be a June bride. Her only consideration for the date of her wedding to lawyer King Reyno was that it be after the May 14 elections. Otherwise, Vicky would not be able to take a long leave from GMA 7, where she anchors the early evening newscast "Saksi" and hosts the public affair show "I-Witness."



THE BRIDE with dad, Dante Morales



GMA 7 reporters Char Santiago, Marilen Cawad and Cesar Apolinario



SANDRA Aguilardo, Josh Hui and Bernadette Sembrano

It was fortuitous that Vicky's altar date fell on the first Saturday of June, after she had checked out the availability of the Sanuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, Makati and The Tent at the Fort, where the reception was held.

"Actually, June 2 was the day we took a Discovery Weekend seminar a year before. That's why that date was also memorable for us," Vicky says.

"But the real planning for our wedding started only middle of May because I was busy with work. So many events happened, from the impeachment trial to People Power II to the elections. So after the election coverage, nag-cramming na talaga ako."

"I thought it was as simple as reserving a church and reception venue and getting a florist, but there were a lot more details than that. King and I wanted to be hands-on in everything, from the musalette to the giveaways."

Vicky, the second of four children of Dr. Dante and Lou Morales, walked down the aisle in an Inno Sotto creation. Inno also did the gowns of the entourage in baby pink and celadon.

"When we had just met, King told me he had a dream about both of us and those were the colors that came out in his dream. That's why we chose that as our motif," Vicky says.

"I really wanted something with a touch of Asia for our wedding. The motif was very Zen."

King, meanwhile, wore a *barong* by Jeanne Goulbourn. King is the eldest of the three kids of Alfonso and Yoly Reyno.

Determined suitor

The couple initially wanted a guest list of only 400 people. "But when we finalized it, it nearly doubled," Vicky says. "During the wedding, I think more than 650 people came."

Aside from Sen. Franklin Drilon, a family friend of the Reynos, all the principal sponsors were relatives of the couple.

Vicky and King were neighbors in Forbes Park. She lived just across from his house, but interestingly enough, they formally met in New York only two years ago.

"Actually, he already knew me because he attempted a couple of times to invite me to parties at his house, but I never got to attend any," Vicky says. "One time, he also asked me if we could have lunch, but I turned him down because I told him our family was going to New York the following day for a vacation."

"It turned out his family was also going there. So I told myself, 'Naku wala na kong kawala dito.' I gave him the number of my sister's place in New York and his family and my family met over dinner."

When they returned to Manila, King was already a constant caller of Vicky. This time, when he asked her out for a date, she relented.

In October last year, King proposed to Vicky in a romantic lounge at the posh Oriental Hotel in

THE NEWLYWEDS King Reyno and Vicky Morales-Reyno

PHOTOS BY SANDY HORMELOS

Bangkok.

"I thought the original plan was a group tour and shopping trip with my parents and his mom," Vicky says. "I had no inkling he was planning to propose."

Vow of happiness

King couldn't have done it any better. In the center of the lounge was a piano and he took to the keyboards and crooned Gary Valenciano's "Reaching Out."

"He sings so well," Vicky beams. "After singing, he took out a zip-lock bag from his pocket and I somehow knew it was a ring. Then he showed it to me and said, 'I guess you know what I want to ask you.'"

Vicky later found out her parents had already

known about King's plan.

"Before we left *pala*, he already talked to my dad and mom separately," she says. "*Parang* he asked *na* for my hand in marriage."

The couple vowed to live happily ever after in a grand wedding that also served as a reunion for the members of the Reyno and Morales clans.

"All the members of our families who live in the States came here to attend our wedding," Vicky says.

Believe it or not, the day after her wedding, without having opened a single gift, Vicky went to GMA 7 to do voice-overs and dub for her segment on "I-Witness."

However, after she finished her pending work, Vicky took a long leave from the network to go on a month-long European honeymoon.

She says it was King who planned their itinerary via the Internet, six months before their wedding. First stop for the couple was Milan, then they were off to Florence, Barcelona and Paris.

"Paris was the only place I knew that we were going to because it's really my favorite," Vicky says. "Everywhere you look, the city is so beautiful. But King didn't tell me about the other destinations."

"We finished 16 rolls of film during our entire European trip. We used almost one roll per day. We even had two cameras. It was an enjoyable time for both of us."

On the first night of their honeymoon, Vicky says she cried.

"It dawned on me that I was actually married and starting a new life," she recalls. "I have to try to learn a new habit. I got so accustomed to coming home at night, seeing all my family members at home. It was a routine."

"Now I realize I'll have to get used to having someone with me. I'm threading on very new territory. You tend to tell yourself it's not just you anymore."

Adjustments

Vicky and King returned to Manila last weekend. She went on an extended leave from GMA and returned to "Saksi" only last Friday.

"This is the first time that I was away from work for a long time. I never really took a long leave. Actually, King is not any help when it comes to my *et lag* because since we arrived, we would talk every night for five hours and before we knew it, the sun would be up and we hardly had any sleep."

For the first year, the couple doesn't plan to have a baby, but Vicky eventually wants two kids. "They say the first year is the most difficult we still have to adjust," she says. "We'll move into a condo in Makati and save up for a little place of our own."

What Vicky likes most about her new hubby is that he's close to her family.

"He gets along with them very well and that's important to me," she says.

"It's very easy to talk to him. *Magaan siyang dalhin*. He's a happy camper. He's also very intelligent. Only, he gets short-tempered when he's hungry."

For a TV personality as popular as Vicky, it helps that she has a secure partner who is not worried if people refer to him as the "husband" of Vicky Morales.

"We don't even talk about it," she says. "I told him I would keep my family name for TV. He's cool about my career. He's news savvy. He likes the news. He appreciates my profession because it's a field he also enjoys. It's a field he would have also succeeded in."



PRINCIPAL sponsors

Comprehensive guide for brides and grooms

THIS "baby" was born into the world five years before its parents walked down the aisle for their "Weddings." Well, such an unplanned development happens in the best of families, even to a successful one such as the Marathon Publishing.

The publishing firm established by the husband-and-wife team of Chet and Margie Espino in 1996 has recently added a new magazine to its growing company: Weddings, the story of romance. The couple is also behind Baby, a monthly glossy that provides informative and practical ideas on parenting.

This time, company president Chet Espino hopes to provide couples, especially the giddy bride, with

sound advice and practical tips to pull off the wedding of their dreams. "Weddings are big events, especially in the Philippines," says Espino. "Through this magazine, we hope to ease the couple's worries as the big day approaches."

Journalist Ivy Liza Mendoza edits the bimonthly magazine which costs P150. Its maiden issue, with celebrity couple Aga Muhlach and Charlene Gonzales on the cover, has devoted page upon page of elegant but wearable wedding gowns by such as Auggie Cordero, Randy Cruz, Rajo Laurel, Letet Veloso and Frederick Peralta. Women with rich fiancés can go to these designers or they can have their dressmakers piece together knockoffs inspired by these creations.

Weddings decidedly caters to women, but Peralta, the magazine's fashion editor, hopes to feature more suits and *barongs* in future issues. "Aside from help-

ing couples," he says, "we also want to support promising designers. We certainly won't be hinting ourselves to established names."

A designer's appointment as a fashion editor is normally met with raised eyebrows by the cynical among his peers. To his credit, Peralta seems to be well accepted by people in the wedding industry. That's why Espino chose him in the first place. Having proven his mettle as an exceptional artist both here and abroad, Peralta has earned a place in the industry and the respect of his colleagues. "Frederick has no mean bone in his body," says Espino. "Everybody likes him and I've seen this for myself."

Informative

During a recent photo shoot for the cover of Weddings' second issue, for instance, Peralta was able to gather together such names as Pitoy Moreno, Ben Farrales, Joe Salazar and Noli Hans at the Westin Philippine Plaza's grand ballroom. Inno Sotto and Pats Tesoro were invited to join, but they had to beg off due to their tight schedules. "Soli," says an amazed Espino, "it was a coup of sorts."

The country's seasoned couturiers wore all-black outfits as they posed with models wearing their respective bridal creations. Moreau never acquired a taste for black outfits, but he wore one anyway just for Peralta. Asia's fashion czar had to wade through his wardrobe to find a decent black outfit for the shoot.

"Yes, I'm also part of the industry," Peralta admits, "but I'm not here merely as a designer. I will help in conceptualizing the theme for a particular issue—sourcing materials, networking with industry people and styling photo shoots."

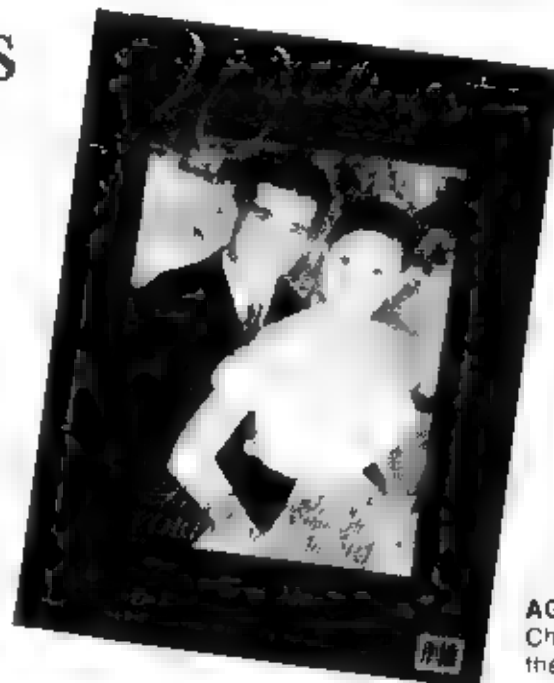
Call it a definitive guide for couples ready to tie the knot. The first issue also includes such topics as the pros and cons of garden weddings, healthy snacks for brides trying to fit into that corset, do-it-yourself giveaways, getting along with your future in-laws (ladies, pay attention) and stress management.

Readers will also expect regular features on ideal honeymoon destinations, gift ideas and a comprehensive bridal directory, which includes a listing of fashion designers, wedding planners, florists, cake makers and caterers.

Getting married, at least for first-timers, is like expecting your first baby. "It's something you've never done before," says the Espinos, "and hopefully will never do again. Of course, you would want it to be perfect."



FREDERICK Peralta (first row, third from left) directs a photo shoot.



AGA and Charlene on the cover



PHOTOGRAPHER John Mossige with dean of Philippine fashion Ben Farrales and his model.

After 17 years, he still blames himself for his girlfriend's death

DEAR JOE,

They say that time heals all wounds. For me, however, that cliché always lacked what every wound leaves after it has healed. Wounds always leave you with scars, and this is what my story is all about.

I'm a successful businessman and I own a chain of computer shops all around the metropolis. Aside from keeping fit, my business is what keeps me busy. My friends tell me that I'm nice-looking but definitely not a movie-star material.

My story happened in college. I was a brash fourth-year engineering student at the University of the Philippines when I met Lalaine at one of our fraternity events. She was simple, sweet and had the most haunting eyes I have ever seen. Luckily, one of my friends knew her and introduced me.

After that night, all I could do was think of her. Every day, I'd make up an excuse to go to her college though I had no subjects there just so I could get a glimpse of her. She would always acknowledge me when she saw me but never seemed to notice that I belonged to a different college or what I was doing there. I knew her phone number but I haven't mustered up the courage to call her because she was not the one who gave it to me but my friend.

A month had passed by when, suddenly, as if by some miracle, I answered the phone and I found myself talking to Lalaine at the other end. It seemed that she was having difficulty in one of her Math subjects and she was looking for somebody to help her. Our common friend casually mentioned my name and so she called me to help with Calculus. That started what I'd like to call our "sparring" moments.

Despite the needed guidance in Mathematics, she was a smart girl and we would talk about almost anything and everything under the sun. We would talk for hours and end up studying for only about 30 minutes. We mostly disagreed on things, and I called it "sparring" because of the exchange of ideas. Sometimes I felt that we'd disagree on a subject because that would make it a more interesting discussion.

LOVE NOTES

Joe D' Mango



Nearing the end of the semester, we were walking along the Sunken Garden when she suddenly slipped and held on to me. She was laughing while holding on to me, when I suddenly blurted out the three words I have been keeping inside me for the past months. She stopped laughing, looked at me in the eye and said, "What took you so long to say it?" and then she smiled and we kissed.

Since that moment, we were rarely apart. We had the kind of a relationship that most people describe as a fairy tale come true. We fit like a tee. I had never been so happy in my life. Her parents accepted me and my parents accepted her. I couldn't think anything or anyone who wanted our relationship to end. We argued, yes, but like in the past, those were just a "sparring" moments for us. There were even times when we'd talk about what our life would be after we got married.

Days and weeks and months passed by and before we knew it, we graduated from college. She worked as a research assistant in one of the leading networks here in the country while I reviewed for the board exams. I guess all relationships have to go through a storm and that was ours. We couldn't seem to fit our schedules together. We never fought about it but it was always there.

When the results of the board exams came out, I was ecstatic. I was one of the topnotchers. My parents gave me a party. I was really hoping that Lalaine would be there to celebrate with me but she was given an important assignment that would give her the chance to be a field reporter. It was already 3 a.m. when Lalaine came. I was drunk and disappointed. Lalaine and I had our worst fight.

We never talked about that night. She never came to see me again. She left me—and is never coming back. Her car was rammed by a dump truck. The autopsy reported severe head injuries, but what really got me was the fact that she was three months pregnant. I lost her and my baby.

Nobody is blaming me but I am blaming myself.

That story happened 17 years ago. I have had other relationships, but to no avail. God knows how I've tried to pick up the pieces and move on but I can't see myself with anybody else but Lalaine.

RUDY

You may live your life of regret for as long as you want, until you can no longer hold your breath, until you bring the memories of Lalaine to your own grave. Life is a matter of choice. There can never be anyone else in your life because you choose not to have one.

I don't blame you for feeling responsible for Lalaine's death. If you felt that it was your fault her car was rammed by that truck then maybe, you're right. But then again, you don't have to carry that burden of guilt all your life. I don't think that choosing to become miserable is the best way to pay back what you owed Lalaine.

Live your life to the fullest and strive to become happy. We all make mistakes that sometimes have irreparable consequences. You cannot steal time and undo the hurt that could have caused Lalaine's accident. But you can make the best out of the time that is left. You have drowned yourself in 17 years of remorse. I honestly believe that you have already served your sentence long enough.

Maybe the only way to pay back is to love again. Love again with all your heart just like the way you loved Lalaine. Learn from the lessons of the past and don't let pride ever get in the way of your relationship. Love like you have never loved before. Somewhere, somehow, a part of that love will fly to where Lalaine is and wipe away her tears that never stopped falling ever since you blamed yourself for her sudden demise.

E-mail the author at joe@ailink.net

FAST set on Aug. 26 at PICC

WITH AMERICA plagued by a 2-million teacher shortage and incoming students numbering 53 million this school year, the Philippines has become a favored source for professional educators. JSC Contractor Inc. (JSC) and Texas-based Onn Consortium Inc./Multicultural Professional Limited Liability Co. (MPLLC) are targeting 1,000 Filipino teachers to take the Functional Academic Skills Test (FAST), one of several qualifying exams for US professional educators, here in Manila.

FAST will be administered in Manila by US educators on Aug. 26 at the Philippine International Convention Center. Applicants must be a BA or BS degree graduate from any accredited college or university with a GPA of 2.5, and with at least two years teaching or tutorial experience.

There are limited seats available for the exam, which will be offered on a first come, first served basis through JSC located on Magallanes Street in Intramuros, Manila, or call 301-008 or 527-5536. To assist teacher applicants, review classes will be conducted in August.

Teachers who pass the FAST exam and succeeding interviews with Texas school district officials will be processed for working visas. Starting salaries are at an average of \$36,000 per annum. Teachers will be contracted to teach elementary and secondary schools for careers in special subjects like Math, Science, Special Education, Reading, English and Bilingual Spanish. An additional benefit is the exemption from paying income taxes on the first two years of their employment.

SERIES 5

Probiotics and Diaper Rash

Germana V. Gregorio, M.D., PhD Pediatric Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist, University of the Philippines College of Medicine, Philippine General Hospital



Disasters Under Diapers

You see them almost as soon as you lift baby's bottom — red, angry-looking rashes that are as hot and itchy as they look. Added to the wet mess he's just made, it's no wonder baby's upset during every diaper change. But what can Mommy do to change these scarlet spots back to a rosy healthy glow?

Nasty Nappies Make Spotted Bottoms

Diaper rash is a mild redness and scaling in areas where the diaper touches baby's skin. It occurs at any age. In more advanced cases, the skin becomes swollen and solid red spots form, which may become infected. This is caused by skin irritation from diapers that are too tight or worn for a long period. If baby wears re-usable cloth diapers, the rash may have been caused by the soap that was used to wash the diapers. If baby uses disposable nappies, his skin may have been irritated by the brand he wears, or by the kind of disposable baby wipes he uses during changing.

On the other hand, diaper rash is also caused by bacteria found in baby's urine or stool. These bacteria release chemicals like ammonia, which are surefire skin irritants. Loose or watery stools make diaper rash worse, because this gives bacteria a nice humid skin environment for them to grow. Plastic pants that are sometimes worn over diapers can add to the irritating heat and moisture. While diaper rash is often found around baby's anal area, it can spread to his lower buttocks, the entire groin, and even outside the diaper area, unless it is given immediate attention.

Refreshing Relief for Rash

Treating diaper rash is almost the same as preventing it. Keep the anal area cool, clean and dry, and make sure you change baby's diapers as soon as they become soiled. Use plain water, or unscented, hypoallergenic wipes to clean baby's bottom, as perfumes and chemicals may irritate his skin. Make sure his skin is completely dry before putting on a fresh nappy, and avoid using plastic pants. You can also try changing the kind of diapers, laundry soap, or baby wipes you are using.

Giving baby a milk formula containing Probiotics or live microbial feed supplement may also decrease the incidence of diaper rash. Probiotics like Bifidus help prevent diaper rash by improving the balance of bacteria in baby's intestinal tract. This helps to improve baby's digestion of lactose or milk sugar which in turn decreases the frequency of loose or soft stools. Less loose stools means less diaper rash. Moreover, it has been suggested that Probiotic bacteria like Bifidus suppress the spread of infectious Candida, a form of yeast commonly found in stools. Hence, most babies taking milk formulas supplemented with Bifidus have a lower occurrence of diaper rash than babies taking standard milk formula.



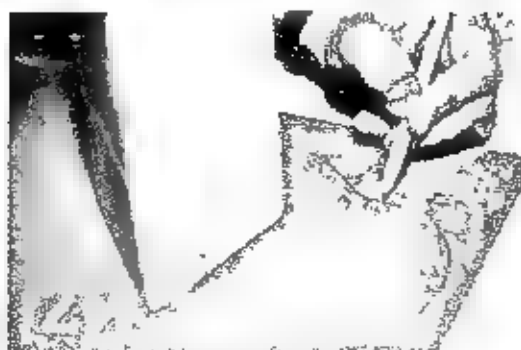
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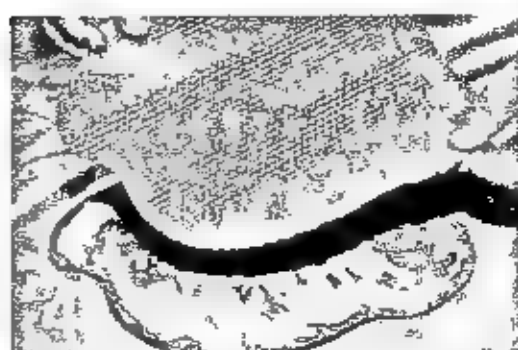
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1 MAKE the candle base by drawing an irregular pattern around the candle. You can either opt for a circular or square base. Cut the board.



3 USE the cut board to make an outline for your corrugated paper. Cut the paper.



4 PASTE together the illustration board and corrugated paper to have a sturdy base. Set aside.



5 CREATE a candleholder by cutting the colored corrugated paper lengthwise with a wave pattern on the edge.

How to embellish candles you can display

BY VANGIE BAGA-REYES
PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

CANDLES look good, whether or not they're lit. They create an instant atmosphere. They lighten up your mood and illuminate your home beautifully. In fact, candles will add a definite point of interest to an otherwise nondescript corner of your living room.

If you already have candles around the house and you still want them to look trendy and appropriate to your interiors, why not paint and embellish them with your favorite flowers or ribbons that you can find around your house?

Alternative artist Bambi Cordero has found ways to spruce up plain old candles. "There are a hundred and one ways to make candles more attractive and charming," she says. For accent pieces, you can decorate candles with dried flowers or dried organic leaves imbedded in the wax. You can also add ribbons, shells and buttons to make them look funky and hip.

In painting candles, Bambi says it's best to treat the candles as your main canvas.

"You can paint anything you want on it—be it fish, flowers, business logos, portraits or any abstract patterns," says Bambi.

To begin the process, wipe a clean dry cloth on the candle to remove dirt or grime. It's better to use those plain and bulky types of candles for easy painting. You will also need candle-color paints instead of ordinary paints.

Candle paints adhere well to the wax and dry fast. The paints are available in different craft stores. Bambi also makes her own candle paints (tel. no. 897-3126). Other materials you need are an illustration board or corrugated board, colored corrugated paper for your candle base, Elmer's Glue or glue gun, paintbrush, a pair of scissors and a pencil.

For suggestions, e-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph

CRAFTS



6 WRAP it around the candle and glue the edges closed.



7 BEFORE PAINTING, put markers or lines to make it as your guide for the ferns and sun. Use a pencil, needle or any sharp, pointed object to make the incision.



8 DRAW and paint ferns and sun. Remember to start with a light color and darken it as you go along.



9 ADD little flowers as accent. You can also glue the flowers on the wax using a glue gun.



10 SEAL the artwork by spraying a varnish (matte, nongloss finish) by Krylon.



ARTIST Bambi Cordero with her painted and embellished candles

Showcase of Toni Galang's fiesta collection



BB, Pipinas Rachel Soriano in a pifia hand-embroidered and hand-painted bridal gown

TONI Galang presented his Fiesta Island Collections at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Chicago recently. The Philippine American Council of Lake Shore headed by its president Ehsandro "Doy" Canlas produced the show for the benefit of the Bahay Puso Apostolate Foundation in Balanga, Batangas.

Chair Amelia Castro, with Evelyn Canlas and Liz Richard, welcomed the guests led by consul general Emeinda Lee-Pineda, township director for the US Midwest Verne Villarde-Morales, president of the Association of Philippine Physicians of America Dr. Jose Vjungco, UST Medical Association president Dr. Greg and Melinda Tolentino, Dr. Edwin and Sally Siroy, Dr. Doy and Fely Camacho, Dr. Maria Fe and Fortune Bato, Nick and Lilian Carabeo, Dr. Hector and Nitz Marifio, Dr. Rina Galvez and Tri-State Medical Society president Dr. Ramo and Judy Bofil.

Galang's 100-piece collection consisted of hand-painted and hand-embroidered kamones, ternos and bridal gowns utilizing indigenous fabrics like tinalak, abel, jusi and pina. The fashion show was directed and choreographed by Ogee Alos with the special participation of Bb. Pilipinas Rachel Soriano, Miss Philippines California Michelle Nocon and Miss Teenage Illinois Claire Czerwonka.



FLORES de Mayo Suite in moth gold contemporary terno for Michelle Nocon escorted by Jason Geret in a pifia hand-embroidered barong

New York wedding, Paris honeymoon



JOSIE Natori, Rissa Hidalgo (standing) and Cindy Velez

JEREMY Jacinto, son of Rupert and Tina Jacinto, and a resident of New York, recently married Nina Antonio, daughter of Dr. and Ms. Jose Antonio, also residents of New York.

The wedding was held at St. Pius X Church in Plainsview, New York. Cocktails and a formal dinner followed at the lower level and the main ballroom, respectively, of Sail Harbor in Bayville, New York.

Jeremy is a computer-graphics designer in a Manhattan firm while Nina is a physician's assistant.

Nina wore a duchesse silk gown embellished with glass beads, pearls and Swarovski crystals, designed by her mother. Her uncle, Tito Hidalgo, a resident of Atlanta, Georgia, assisted in the gown's execution.

Among the principal sponsors were Josie Natori, Cindy Romualdez Velez (Jeremy's *ninang* at baptism), Paz Yuchengco (also Rupert and Tina's *ni-nang* at their wedding), Clarissa Hidalgo (Tina's sister), Ben and Ginny Hidalgo Reyes.

The groom's sisters, Jacqueline and Liezl, were among the bridesmaids.

Hors d'oeuvres included Beef Wellington, giant prawns, caviar and smoked salmon. Dinner consisted of prime ribs and salmon.

After dinner, the guests participated in a dance walk reminiscent of New Year's Eve revelry. The bride then gave a surprise song number, much to the amusement of the groom. Best man Jeff Castañeda gave a speech. The dancing and open bar went on till midnight.

For the couple's honeymoon, Ms. Natori offered her Paris residence, which has been featured in Architectural Digest and TV specials.



A BEAUTIFUL spring day in New York, for the wedding of Jeremy Jacinto and Nina Antonio



A FORMAL FAMILY PORTRAIT

The groom flanked by (from left) younger sister Liezl, dad Rupert, elder sister Jacqueline and mom Tina (seated).

The other father of the bride

(From page E8)

their traditions, *kohit konti, hindi talaga nawawala tyon.*

JP works with a lean staff of three to four persons, depending on the size of the wedding. He has a pool of suppliers that he regularly works with and has known through the years. JP prefers working on a budget and he likes the couple to be open about this from the very start. "Tell me what your budget is and we'll see how we can work around it."

Currently, his rate for a full bridal coordination package is P35,000. The one-month service and one-day service are considerably much lower. He also likes to work with colors which, he says, he likes to carry throughout the event itself. "The first thing I usually ask is what your favorite colors are. Then we begin from there." As if being a wedding coordinator were not enough, JP is also currently the special events coordinator for Abotiz, Jensen and Procter and Gamble where he is also the administrator of the company's scholarship foundation.

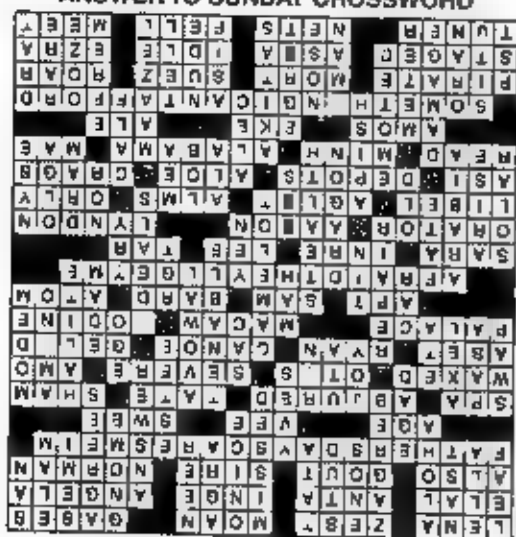
B.g. man with a b.g. creative heart—hey, this JP could give Franck a run for his money.

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph



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The other father of the bride

BY CATHY BABAO GUBALLA
PHOTOS BY PIERRE OLIVER CRUZ

THESB days when you think of weddings, you can be sure the wedding coordinator cannot be too far behind. Even more memorable than Jennifer Lopez in the film "The Wedding Planner" was a character named Franck in the movie "Father of the Bride."

Immortalized on screen by comedian Martin Short, Franck seemed to be the epitome of the comical wedding coordinator—funny, honest, sincere, highly creative, a shoulder to cry on and, more importantly, a genuine friend. In a field dominated by women, Juan Paolo "JP" Montilla, special events coordinator and owner of Complete Work Inc. (tel. 810-7302/641-6567), has made his creative mark evident in the weddings of the hundreds of brides he has cared for these last five years.

Educated at Les Roches in Switzerland with a degree in hotel and restaurant management, JP came home in 1996 and plunged head-on into the world of special events planning, with weddings as his forte. On the average, he is involved in the planning and coordination of four to five events per month. The tall and amiable JP appears intimidating at first, but once you sit down and talk with him, you find that he is honest, upfront, sincere and very willing to listen to your ideas. "It's very important for me to be friends with the client. Your ideas need to connect somehow," he tells us over a salad and a glass of lemonade.

JP puts his whole heart into his work. "It would be nice to work with a person that you can end up being friends with. Many of the brides whose weddings I have done have remained in touch through the years," he says with a smile.

Ideally, a bride should get in touch with her wedding coordinator eight months to a year before the wedding. "For a full package that includes anything and everything related to the wedding—from booking the church and hotel picking the menu, the gown, the flowers, the paper for the invitations, giveaways, making the calls, etc.—The ideal should be that time frame," JP explains. Complete Work also offers a partial package—a month before the wedding package that includes anything from following up calls to last-minute things to creating a program for the wedding complete with a script.



HANDS-ON. JP Montilla fixes the bride's train.

One day, one month or one year? JP Montilla does the job

Then, for brides who are really on a tight budget and would only want the services of a coordinator for a day, there is the one-day coordination service where JP and his staff of three are present only on the wedding day itself to orchestrate the flow from wedding to reception.

JP admits that times have become difficult. "People really watch where their money goes and there has been an increasing trend in one-day or one-month-before services."

He further adds that grooms nowadays have become more involved in planning out the details and not just entirely because of the cost. "They seem to show more interest in what's happening and in the overall details. On some occasions,

they're even more involved than the bride," JP says with a wide grin.

Most memorable wedding

His most memorable wedding to date was that of a Chinese couple who chose an Elizabeth I motif for their wedding. The bride, JP describes, came in a big ball gown in gold and her entourage was dressed all in burgundy.

The décor, both in the church and at the reception, was very gothic and Elizabethan. "That wedding was one year in the making," JP recalls. He also relates that owing to the number of Chinese weddings he has done, he has become quite versed in Chinese tradition and in feng shui. "Sixty-five percent of the weddings I have done are those who come from Chinese families." When we ask JP what the major difference between a Filipino wedding and a Chinese wedding is, he tells us that the element of tradition is sometimes what is sorely lacking. "Serving because we have a lot of our own traditions that we could incorporate into the wedding ceremony. The Chinese weddings really carry

THE OTHER/ p. E7

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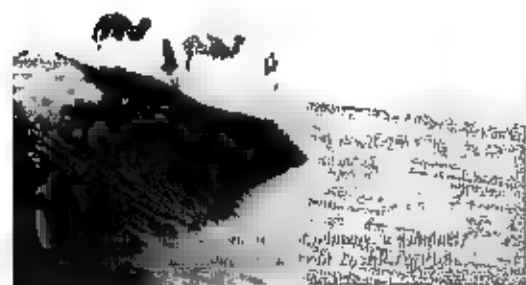
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

JUSTIN MAROZZI
SOUTH FROM
Barbary

JUSTIN Marozzi, former Manila correspondent for the Financial Times, debuts with "South from Barbary" where he traces the slave routes in the Libyan desert by camel

MAROZZI'S 'SOUTH FROM BARBARY'

Crossing the Libyan desert by camel

Justin Marozzi is that most precious rarity, a serious traveler who is also a real writer, with a wonderful feel for language, a gift for narrative and an enviable sensitivity and lightness of touch.—veteran travel novelist William Dalrymple on Justin Marozzi's debut novel, "South from Barbary"

BY KITTY GO

AS the Financial Times foreign correspondent in Manila, Justin Marozzi covered everything from the (perennial) demise of the Philippine National Bank to cockfighting with Bong and Ramon Revilla. Local political journalists would probably remember him as the guy then-Vice President Joseph Estrada threw out of a press conference.

The reason? Marozzi asked Erap if he was behind the attempted assassination of then-President Fidel Ramos. Since that incident, I knew Marozzi had to be my friend. What an exciting experience, I thought, to be thrown out of a presscon. The only thing I've been thrown out of was the Immaculate Conception Glee Club and that got me even less recognition that I have

CROSSING/ p.F2

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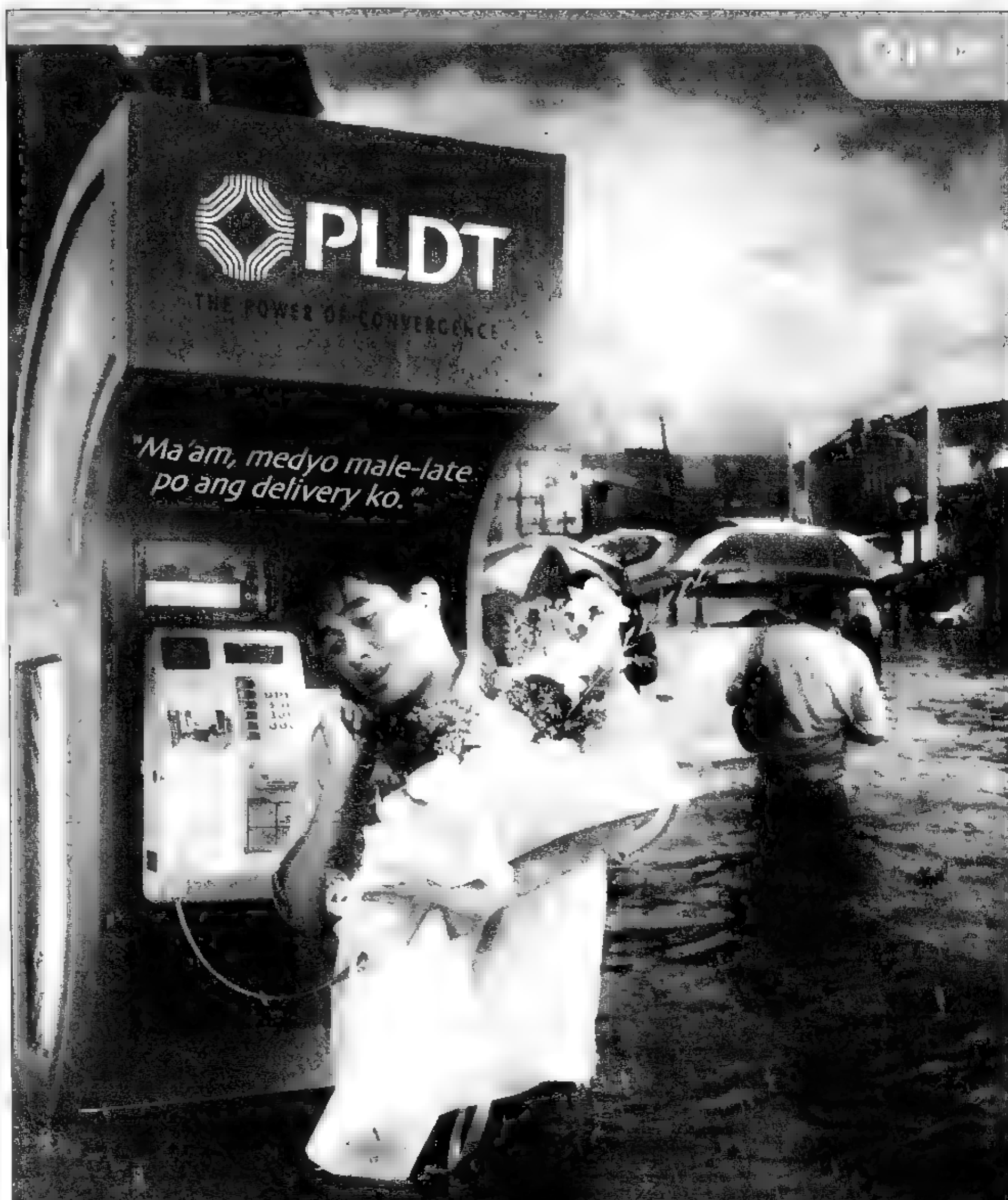
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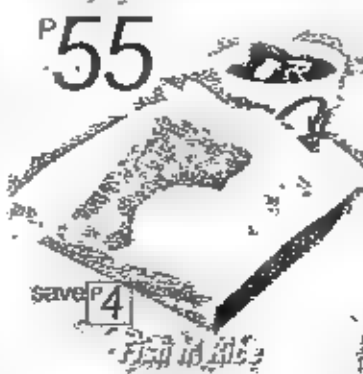
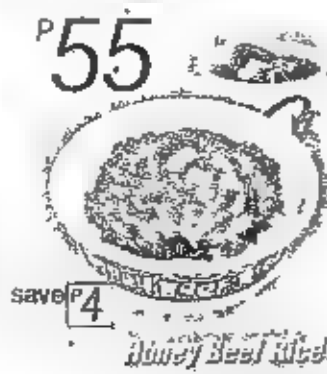
The book has three elements—history, logistics and the trip itself. It is not exactly a travel novel in the comedic tradition of Bill Bryson but it does have its funny moments

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Crossing the Libyan desert by camel

(From page F1)

However, what brought Marozzi and me together was our desperate effort at dancing in Obando. For people unfamiliar with Obando, it is a town in Bulacan famous for its annual dance parade in honor of San Pascual and Santa Clara, saints reputed to work wonders to your love life and fertility, respectively.

At that time, Marozzi and I were hankering for love (not to each other, at least) and children (certainly not with each other) like priority seats on Death Row. But we went anyway because Obando would be a good story. Because we didn't know what we were doing or were not serious about the exercise, we danced to the beat of the wrong saint (the song was "Shalalala," by the way). Instead of following San Pascual who supposedly will guide you toward your significant other (okay, it didn't hurt to try), we followed Santa Clara, for fertility. And for someone like me who thinks children cramp my fabulous fashion style, joining the parade felt more like the Batani Death March than a festive religious ritual. Marozzi eventually published his piece in the FT; I, in the Manila Times.

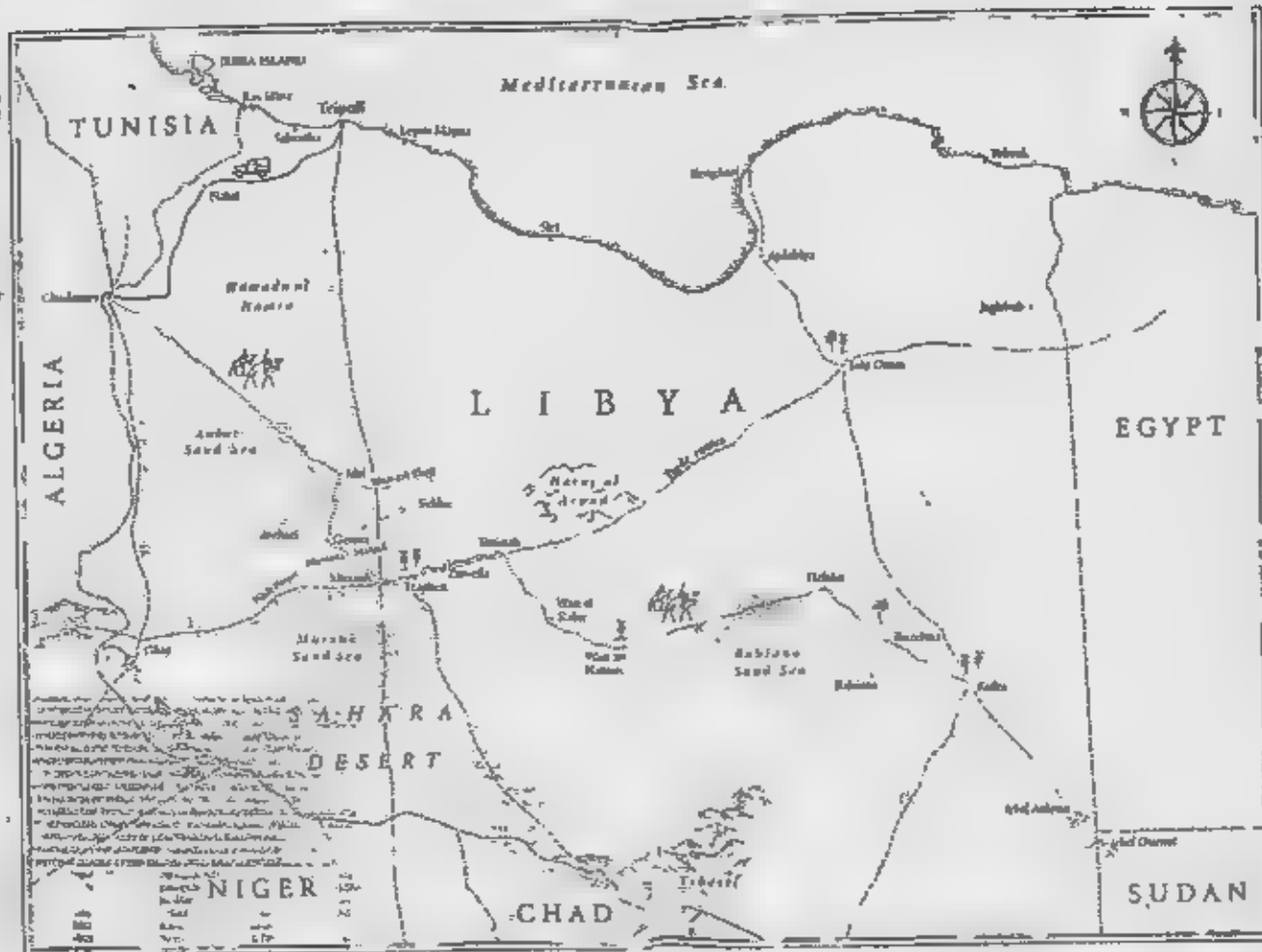
Marozzi returned to London four years ago and I see him every time I am there, except in the winter of 1999 when he spent Christmas in Libya. This year, Marozzi debuts with "South from Barbary" (HarperCollins), a chronicle of his adventures (more like misadventures) crossing the Libyan desert by camel.

For a first novel, Marozzi has done extremely well. His book launch at the Royal Geographic Society, was attended by Sir Wilfred Thesiger, the oldest living explorer. Of course, his Cambridge buddies (it seemed more like a Cambridge reunion than a book launch), James Rubin and Christiane Amanpour were also there, but I digress...

Aside from a successful launch, "South from Barbary" has been featured in the Literary Review, www.fireandwater.com and the British Father. Of course, being an FT contributor, he wrote a behind-the-scenes front-page article for the Weekend Financial Times. The book is available on the Net from www.amazon.co.uk. (Don't forget the co.uk.)

'Never trust a camel'

A trip to Tripoli with his father in 1992 inspired Marozzi to return to what was once known as Barbary, in 1999. On his first trip, he got hold of a book, "A Narrative of Travels in North Africa," by Joseph Ritchie, which further in-



TRIPPING FROM TRIPOLI: Marozzi and Ned clock 1,500 miles, 1,200 of which are by camel.

JUSTIN Marozzi and his traveling companion, Ned, in Marozzi's mother's garden in Kent. Ned's granduncle was the founder of the SAS and fought in North Africa during World War II.



buying the five camels (at £800 a pop) and looking for guides. The duo went through several guides simply because there no longer are that many people who travel through the desert by camel. One of the guides never even worked with camels.

INQUIRER got to spend time with Marozzi in his hometown of Canterbury where he did a book signing at the Waterstone's branch there. Being high school chums, Marozzi and Ned toured their historical Canterbury high school and ran into old teachers and former classmates.

Below are excerpts from the interview held in the car on the way back to London with Marozzi treacherously at the wheel and Ned driving in the backseat.

Would you do travel across the desert again?

Marozzi (M): Definitely. Maybe Sudan or Mongolia... To travel again with camels would be great. (He did tell the Literary Review, "I would have exchanged all the comforts of civilization for the chance to remain in the Sahara." He also told PDI over drinks at a pub that it was the most amazing trip of his life.)

Ned (N): I would love to do it again... Western China, because they have woolly camels with two humps and it's colder and emptier.

M: I don't mind traveling alone but it's lonely.

After one month in Uzbekistan, I wanted to come back. I went to Afghanistan with someone I didn't know as well as Ned. (Marozzi is now working on a book tracing the route from Uzbekistan—formerly known as Samarkand—to Delhi, that the 14th-century Mongol emperor, Tamerlane, traveled.)

You, guys, ate nothing but tuna pasta for your main meals. Why tuna pasta and not cup-of-noodles?

M: Ned is the worst possible backseat driver! We drove in Tunisia. We'll have to take camels and he'll have to improve his camel skills.

N: Tuna pasta is more efficient than rice or lentils.

M: It uses less water than rice, and vegetarian food is boring.

What was the hardest part of the trip?

M: When we got to Wau an Namus (writer's note, also known as mosquito crater and it's not called that for nothing) where we got extra water but not enough for the next week's 220 miles. We ate dates, and the camels ate fruit and grass. Also, leaving the camels [at the end of the trip] We left them with Taher (the visa fixer). They are very unusual camels and I hope they weren't slaughtered for food.

What did you dislike about the trip or about each other?

N: I wasn't irritated by Justin. I'm desperately trying to think... I quite wanted to speak Arabic.

M: Small things affect you in the desert, like, where you place the camels.

What food did you choose to bring? I wouldn't exactly call the choices in Libya Santi's quality. (Most of the food was bought locally.)

M: Tuna, onions, garlic, oranges, biscuits, sweets like candy and chocolate, ground barley which we mixed with sugar for energy, packet soups and hot pepper sauce for pasta, which we brought from the UK.

You spent a lot of time reading on the trip. What books did you bring?

M: "Seven Pillars of Wisdom" by Lawrence of Arabia, the Koran, an Arabic language conversational book, translation of Homer's "Odyssey" from Greek to English by Lawrence of Arabia, "Tom Jones" by Henry Fielding which we bought in Libya, New Testament, Vanity Fair by Thackeray. Ned brought books by PG Woodhouse.

How did you spend your days? Did you have a schedule?

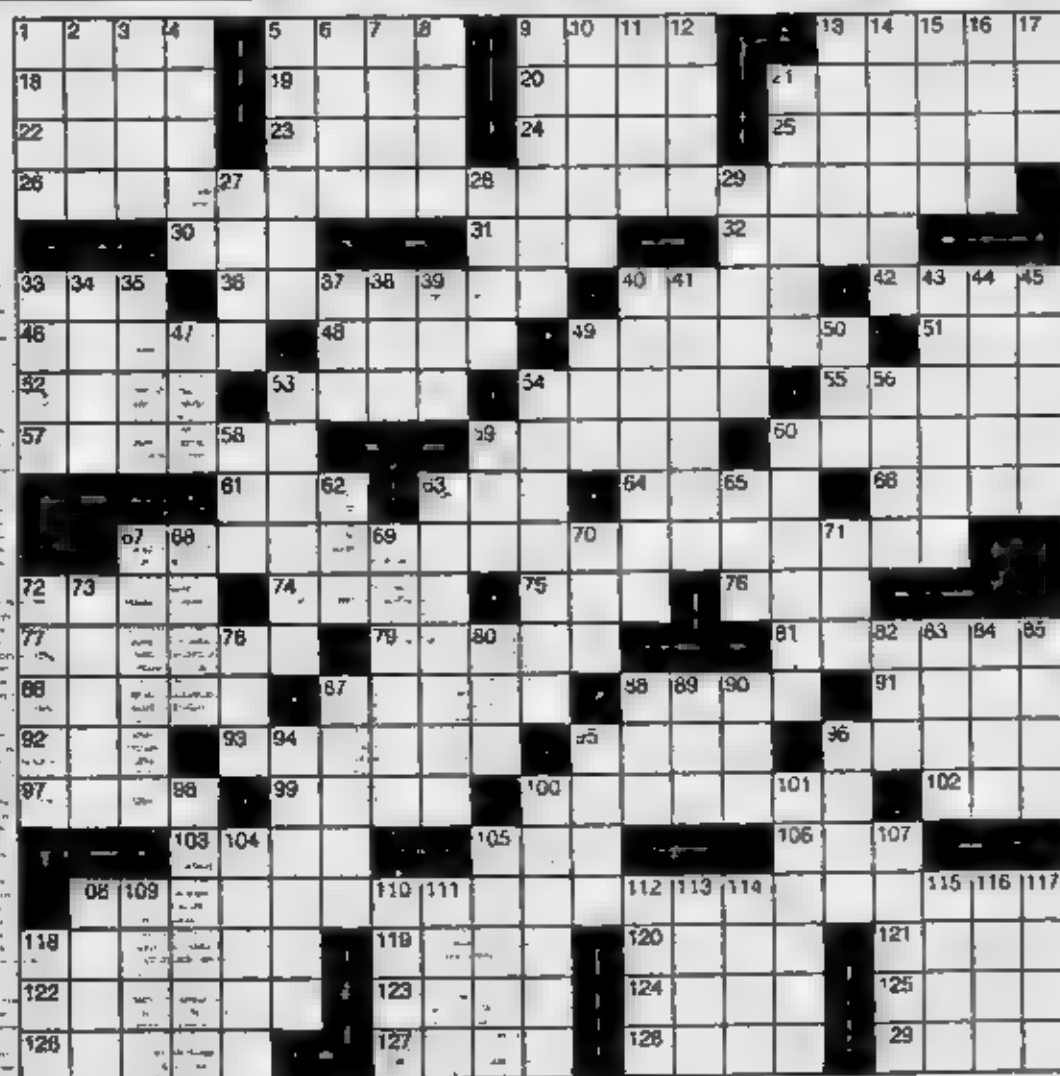
M: We got up between 7 and 7:30 a.m. We untied the camels so they could graze. It was so cold so we would make a fire, then tea. We also would have *zamia*, which looks like porridge made of barley, water and sugar. By the time we were ready to leave, we had to bring in the camels again because they would have walked half a mile away. Then we put them on their knees and loaded them. This takes long and you need two people to handle one camel. (They had five camels—The Big White, Lehead, Gobber, Bobbles and Asfar.) By 8:30 or 9 a.m., we would set off and travel until sunset. That would be about 6 or 7 p.m. (Throughout the day), we'd walk for two hours then ride for two hours. After two hours on the saddle, it gets uncomfortable.

Think you'll make an expert camel jockey? Tell me you've been had by a sand pirate. E-mail me at styledwager@hotmail.com.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PRESENT DANGER

- ACROSS
- Singer Home
 - Gusto
 - Complain
 - Helium and hydrogen
 - Israeli airline
 - Cultural grp.
 - "Picnic" playwright
 - Actress Baddeley
 - Strauss' "— spruch Zarathustra"
 - "Chacun a son —"
 - Lassie's father
 - Diva Jessye
 - Start of a remark by Milton Berle
 - Iron —
 - Center of gravity?
 - Pea (Popeye's kid)
 - Health resort
 - Swore off
 - "Little Man" (1991 film)
 - Mock
 - Polished the Pontiac
 - R&B's Johnny
 - Harsh
 - Latin I word
 - Help in a beast
 - Baseball's Nolan
 - Hawatha's transport
 - Very cold
 - King's quarters
 - Brilliant bird
 - Common antiseptic
 - Prone
 - Shepard or Sneed
 - Poet in the past
 - Particle
 - Middle of remark
 - Writer Paresky
 - Memo start
 - Brenda or Brandon
 - Gob
 - Speaker
 - Singer Neville
 - "Barry —" ('75 film)
 - Defamation
 - Shoelace part
 - Charity
 - French airport
 - "Unaccustomed — am..."
 - Storage sites
 - Burn remedy
 - Steep rocks
 - Curl up with Cather
 - Ho Chi —
 - Mobile home?
 - Dogpatch's Daisy —
 - Famous fellow?
 - Scrape by, with "out"
 - Stout relative
 - End of remark
 - "Peter Pan" extra
 - Comic Sahl
 - Seaport or Canal



- DOWN
- Page
 - Raines or Wilcox
 - "Boss" Tweed's nemesis
 - Hilo hello
 - Croatian capital
 - Slaughter or Cabell
 - Lobe probe?
 - "Cheerio!"
 - Ached for
 - In reserve
 - Ty town
 - do well
 - Lawn ornament
 - Comes to terms
 - Big rig
 - Jack of "Rio Lobo"
 - Bernardino, CA
 - Response
 - "Heavens to Betsy!"
 - Montand or Tanguy
 - Cosmetician Lauder
 - Trade
 - Sunscreen ingredient
 - Lapsinski leap
 - Happiness
 - Actress Hagen
 - Tin Tin
 - Logical
 - Declaration
 - Rock salt
 - acid
 - Transmit by bytes
 - LAX letters
 - Cul-de —
 - Freud topic
 -
 - Lerner & Loewe musical
 - Dutch export
 - Roller-coaster unit
 - joung
 - Perfect examples
 - ear
 - Furtiveness
 - Mil. group
 - Sheik spot
 - Destiny
 - Siegrind slew one
 - Ich
 - Strive
 - plexus
 - Greet Eos
 - Vintage
 - Musical syllables
 - Postman's Creed word
 - Wee serving
 - "Eugene Onegin" character
 - AMEX rival
 -
 - Menu phrase
 - Tennis stroke
 - culpe
 - Hammed up "Hamlet"
 - Pianist Templeton
 - Baby bovine
 -
 - Powerful pooches
 - Maestro Lorn
 - 104.39.37 inches
 - Snowy bird
 - Zimbabist, Jr.
 - In — (archaeology term)
 - Mediterranean port
 - "No Way Out" actress
 - Scenter of your face?
 - Like
 -
 - Swiss sharpshooter
 - Scalp
 - Seldom seen
 - "Confound it!"
 - Oregon hrs.

spired him to pursue the desert expedition.

"South from Barbary" is not exactly a travel novel in the comedic tradition of Bill Bryson but it does have its funny moments. In fact, there are lots of them—from camels trying to make a quick getaway to gift-giving at Christmas in the form of the Pro-Yo II (the world's longest fixed-axle yo-yo). Nor is it an altogether romanticized tale like Isak Dinesen's "Out of Africa." How could you manage a soft-focus image of the Libyan desert when you have to eat tuna pasta every night, celebrate New Year's Eve with glamorous bottled Coke, clean dishes with frozen sand and occasionally get spat on by a camel?

The book has thought-provoking advice for desert travelers such as the ancient Arab saying, "Never trust a camel," and practical yet understated weather pointers from Anthony Cozalet, a veteran of several trans-Saharan car expeditions. "Basically, you're going to be bloody cold." It was so cold that Marozzi and Ned would wake up with frost on their sleeping bags.

For the two-month, 1,200 mile expedition, Marozzi read up on Libyan history, learned Arabic, interviewed experienced sources on North Africa and researched the logistics of the trip at the Royal Geographic Society.

"South from Barbary" basically has three elements—history, logistics and the trip itself, specifically the day-trip adventures and desert characters.

Marozzi and Ned didn't exactly run into Imelda Marcos' buddy Muammar Gaddafi but you'd be surprised who hangs out in the desert these days.

Before and throughout the trip, the author gives a history of the place, usually illustrated with quotes from historic sources. The book does not only discuss the trip itself and some history of Libya; but also the organization of the trip from stocking up on food, visa problems,

Is there life after summer?

THE COUNTRY'S premiere tourist destination never ceases to attract travelers despite the onset of the rainy season. In fact, there's as much reason to go to Boracay during this time of the year as there is during summer.

It's the time of the year when one can have the chance to savor tranquility at its best. And despite the occasional downpour, the sun still manages to shine most of the day to provide that "off-season" tan.

More importantly, it's a bargain galore wherever you go in Boracay. It makes a great time for shopping for souvenirs and even hotel and resort rates come easy on the pocket. Just like the best deals offered by The Sun Village, the newest boutique resort to open in this paradise island. Located at Bo. Manoc-Manoc, The Sun Village rests on a hill-top, just a few minutes walk from Boracay Station 3, with 12 air-conditioned rooms, each fitted with a private toilet and bath.

For this season, The Sun Village offers special package rates for those who wish to have a taste of the Boracay experience, run or shine. Single occupants pay only P5,900 for three days and two nights in an air-conditioned room. The package includes round-trip airfare via Asian Spirit, land transfers and free breakfast.

When staying with a companion or in a group of three, the rate drops down to P5,300 per person for three days and two nights in an air-conditioned room, including round-trip airfare via Asian Spirit, land transfers and free breakfast.

The Sun Village Best Deals is valid from July 1-Aug. 30. For inquiries and reservations, call the Boracay office at 036-288-5484 or the Manila office at 818-0708, 893-9355 and 816-3109. You may also send fax at 812-4797 or e-mail at fpn@pacific.net.ph or fuentes@pacific.net.ph.

Total entertainment zone

BY CATHY BABAO-GUBALLA
PHOTOS BY JOHNNY VILLENA

FILM fanatics rejoice. Ten new state-of-the-art cinemas that are part of Robinsons Movieworld-Galleria opened its doors in mid-June this year after more than a year of construction and redecoration. The multimillion-peso renovation and improvements include 5,000 new fabric upholstered seats, a spacious and specially themed lobby where a videowall, which will preview current and future films to be shown at the movie complex, will be installed at the lobby. Computerized ticketing systems, reserved seats, Internet ticket reservations, loyalty cards and special prepaid cinema cards are some of the special features that Robinsons Movieworld-Galleria will soon offer.

The layout of the new cinema

After a year of construction and renovation, Robinsons Movieworld-Galleria opens its doors to families and film buffs

complex has been modified to accommodate 10 theaters instead of the previous six. Under the new design, there are six cinemas on the fourth level of Robinsons Galleria and four on its newly built mezzanine. Cinema 1 with 480 seats is a THX theater while Cinemas 2 and 3

with Dolby-Digital sound technology are the largest in the complex with 900 seats each. One of the 10 cinemas will be dedicated to showing art films in English and Tagalog.

Delightful features

There is also a host of new dining places and a bookstore that are part of the new cinema complex. Books N Books promises to fulfill, or even exceed, the expectations of book lovers. Personalized service, rare finds, bestsellers and up-to-date titles plus a searchable database of over 30,000 book titles are some of the features of this soon-to-open bookstore. So, while waiting for a movie's screening time, one can sit and browse at the many titles to be found in this new book haven.

There is also an array of coffee, tea and juice outlets to choose from. Coffee Experience, a coffee bar;

Starbucks Coffee, Taka's Tea Bar; Juicy Squeeze, a juice bar that offers different blends of therapeutic and gourmet fresh fruit and vegetable juices and smoothies; and Ubar, a new concept that marries the popular coffee bar culture with the modern juice stand, offers drinks that promise to rejuvenate both mind and body. Old reliables like Gourmet's Café and Kentucky Fried Chicken also make their homes within the cinema complex. Other places to dine in are Café Med, a restaurant that offers specialties from Italy, Greece and Turkey; Taters Stadia which specializes in "gigfood"; and Tortilla Fusion with its tummy-filling "wraps," quesadillas, nachos and salads. To satisfy the sweet tooth craving, there is good old Dunkin' Donuts or Dippin' Dots ice cream. Currently, only Tortilla Fusion and Gourmet's



RENOVATED Galleria movie theaters

Café are open but majority of these establishments are slated to open one after the other within the next month.

It's not all movies on Galleria's fourth level which has been dubbed as the Entertainment zone of the mall. Located on the same floor is Dreamscape, an indoor amusement

center; bowling alleys; and Limits disco and a host of other fast food dining places. Clearly, Galleria's Entertainment zone on its fourth level will soon be the best place to hang out north of Makati.

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph

Pintas nang pintas ang ibang panlaba, yun pala, may chalk din sila.



THE WIDEST COVERAGE
IN THE PHILIPPINES,

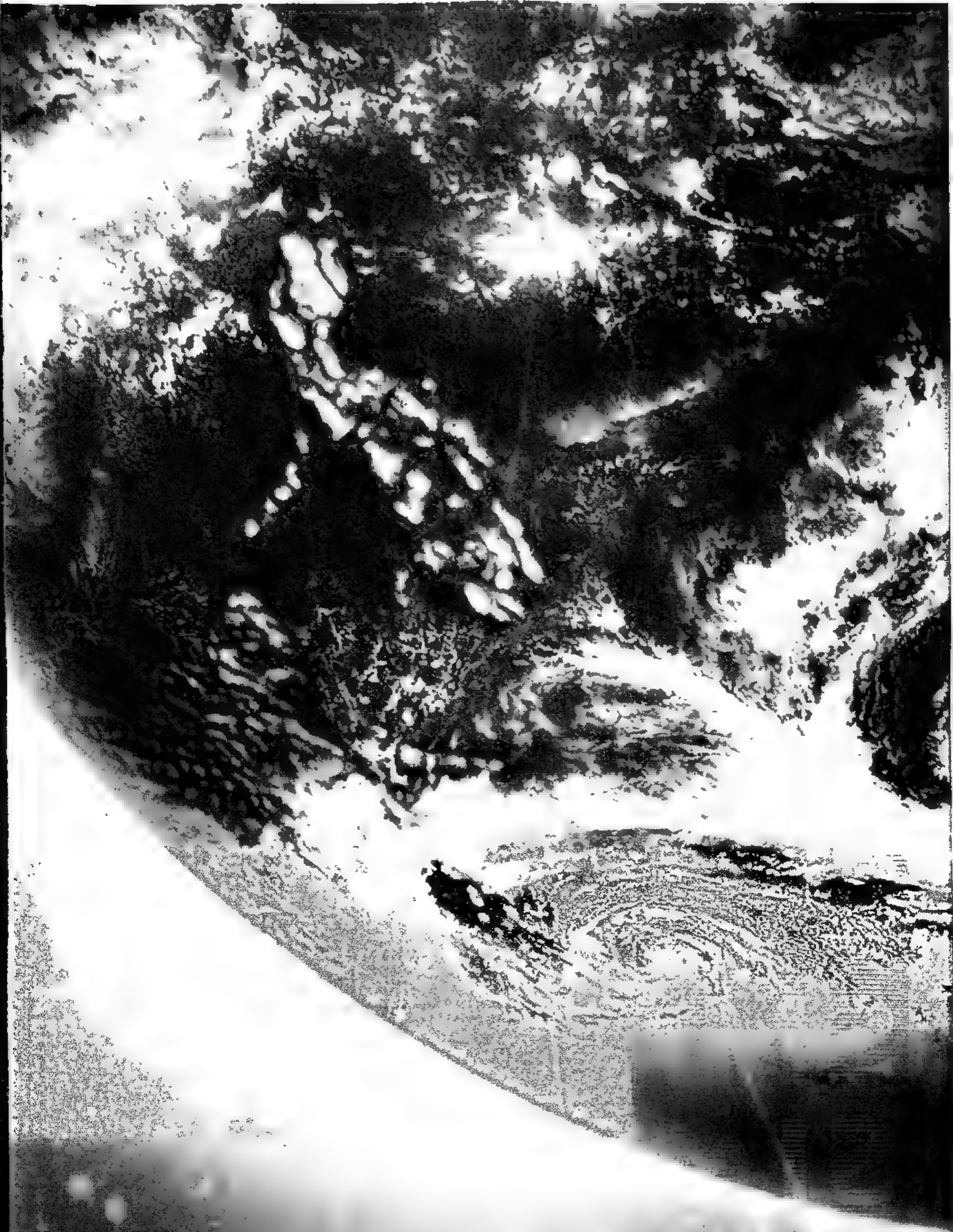
ACROSS ASIA.

AND SPANNING
THE REST OF THE WORLD.

**SMART.
SIMPLY,
THE WIDEST**

SMART
GOLD
GSM

SMART
ACES
SATELLITE GSM



T.

SMART
Simply Amazing!

TRAVEL

ROSARIO A. GARCELANO, Editor

Like a slow and gentle stream

Sagada is calm and quiet. It is unlike, say, Palawan, whose stunning beauty hits you like a wave and leaves you drenched for days

THE KING'S Chamber deserves the name.

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY JOSE MARTE A. ABUEG

Someone wrote long ago—and time has obviously stood still—Sagada is a state of mind. It is possible to visit the place and miss the point.

Sagada is unassuming, its charm unprepossessing. It is different from, say, Palawan, whose stunning scenic beauty hits you like a sudden wave and leaves you drenched for days. Sagada greets you with the sight of a ramshackle, three-story hotel that has galvanized-iron sheets for exterior walls. You realize that the mystique must lie elsewhere.

Sagada is calm and quiet, like a slow and gentle stream. It is the perfect opposite of a city. Urban anxieties and heavy, residual heat may take time to vanish, but they must. The essence of the place can begin to seep in only after you empty up.

That can happen deep inside Sumagay Cave, as you entrust life and limb to a local guide, a petromax lamp, a rope and, ultimately, yourself. The steep climb down, estimated at 350 meters, takes about two hours. It has to be on bare hands and feet; shoes won't do on the muddy rocks. Beyond the lamp's illumination, all is pitch black.

Experiencing this danger can help clear inner cobwebs. As you go deeper down, the ground loses its mud, and the rocks and stalagmites turn golden. The final reward comes in the King's Rest House, at the bottom, where a cool natural pool cleanses and exhilarates.

That night, a cloud descends on Mount Ampakao. You watch it from a cottage window at Saint Joseph's Rest House. The trees that line the mountain crest slowly turn into fine silhouettes before disappearing.



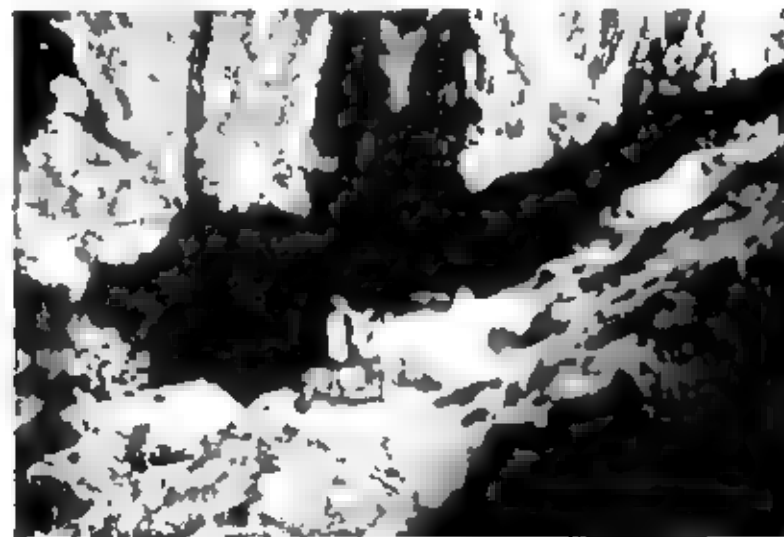
AND it's no picnic getting there



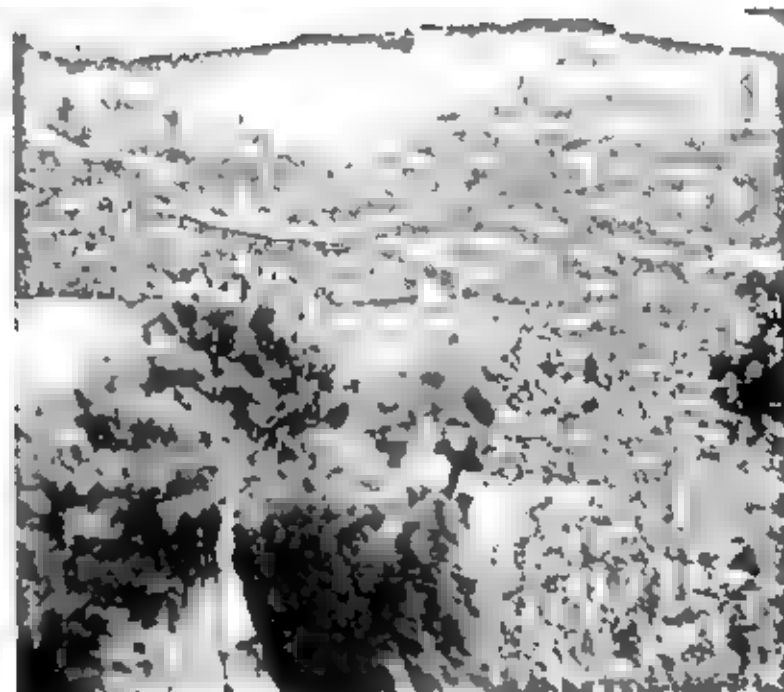
IT is at once lonely and grand at the peak.



ON THE way up the mountain you can look for mushrooms.



CATCH your breath before entering Sumagay Cave



in the white haze. About half an hour later, the cloud is right at the cottage's door.

Mount Ampakao can be a full morning's hike to the peak—if you often pause to look for mushrooms, pick berries, drink from a flower that yields rain water, and perhaps attempt writing with a twig and natural ink from little black peas.

The peak shows magnificent landscapes of mountains and valleys, giving you a feeling of being at once grand on the mountaintop and puny beneath the sky.

The winding road to Sumagay Cave also provides a view of one of those valleys, a landscape of rice and cabbage terraces. Along the ridge you can clearly hear the constant wind blowing through the pine trees overhead, and from below, the gurgling of an unseen brook.

Sometimes Sagada's invitation to contemplation isn't overly subtle.

NOW you're midway up Mount Ampakao.



THERE'S always time to listen to the wind.

TRAVEL BRIEFS

International chain

MICROTREL, known for its economy hotels worldwide, is adding four more to its four existing ones in the Philippines starting next year.

"We remain committed to our vision of propagating Microtels in the Philippine countryside where opportunities exist—even with the current threats to the tourism industry," said Jose Mari del Rosario, president of franchise holder Microtel Philippines.

Microtel has units in the First Philippine Industrial Park in Sto. Tomas, Batangas; Calapan, Oriental Mindoro; the Aquino Center in Lungsod, Tarlac; and the Eagle Ridge Golf Club in General Trias, Cavite.

New ones will be built in Cabañatuan, Nueva Ecija; Tagaytay City, and Sta. Rosa and Calubang, Laguna.

Major hotel and resort developers have set up facilities in Batangas in anticipation of the expected increase in tourist arrivals.

Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon said the vigorous flow of tourism investments into Batangas indicated the capacity of the industry to overcome recent setbacks.

Tourism is not dead in the water. Far from it. Tourism is primed for a comeback. Just look at what is happening in Batangas," Gordon said in a statement.

He said the incidents of banditry in Palawan and certain parts of Mindanao were "mere bumps" that would soon be forgotten. "Tourism will outlast terrorism," he added.

Pilgrimages

A MARIAN pilgrimage to Portugal,

Spain, France, Italy and Belgium is being organized by writer Vistacion "Chit" de la Torre.

Among the highlights of the trip set on Sept. 17-Oct. 5 are an audience with the Pope at St. Peter's Square in the Vatican, a tour of the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel, a visit to the Shrine of Our Lady of Beaurain (the Virgin with the Golden Heart) in Belgium, and a visit to Banneux, considered the Lourdes of Belgium.

There will be stops at well-known Marian sites such as Fatima and Lourdes, St. Mary Major's Basilica in Rome, Notre Dame Cathedral and Miraculous Medal chapel of St. Catherine Labouré in Paris, etc.

Also included in the trip are visits to the Louvre and the cafés and fashion houses of Paris. There will also be time to see the sights in Portugal.

For inquiries, call 815-6925, 815-

4938, 0918-915-9337, or EC 141-10.758.

Mgr. Severino Llorca, archdiocesan spiritual director of the Catholic Women's League in Metro Manila, will lead a 9-country pilgrimage and cultural tour that starts on Sept. 26.

The trip will cover sacred and historic sites in Britain, the Netherlands, Germany, the Czech Republic, Austria, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, France and Italy.

It starts with a tour of London and winds up in Italy, where it will be capped with visits to the four major basilicas in Rome. There, participants will not only offer prayers to heal the Philippines but also have an audience with the Pope.

For inquiries, call the Sto. Niffo Parish Church at 564-6875 or 563-3211

(ask for Neilsa or Bea) or 0917-540-9620 (ask for Rosemarie).

Anniversary treat

CEBU Pacific Air's frequent flyer program, Summit Club, is offering an anniversary treat for both new and existing members until Aug. 31.

Members who fly with the airline within this period will automatically be credited double PremiumMiles, bringing them closer to a free ticket or that choice merchandise item.

Those interested to join the club will receive a sign-up bonus of 500 PremiumMiles provided they submit their application forms within the promo period. New members who fly during this time will also get double PremiumMiles.

For inquiries, call the Summit Club Member Service Center 6 a.m.-8 p.m.,

Mondays to Fridays, and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on weekends and holidays, on its toll-free line 1-800-1888-2582.

Weekend getaways

CAUSEWAY Tours is marking the month of July with a series of weekend getaways.

On July 14-15 rediscover La Union's best attractions during an overnight stay at the most popular beach resort in Northern Luzon.

On July 20-22, go on an adventure through the "Mystical Siquijor Tour."

On July 28-29, experience a truly romantic vacation on Mt. Dana in Mountain Province.

All trips include the services of a tour guide, accommodations, entrance fees, breakfast, group activities and transportation.

For reservations and inquiries, call 853-8728 or 853-8652.

Motorists air gripes

TRAFFIC is taking a heavy toll on the nerves of motorists driving through South Luzon Expressway. If that's not bad enough, potholes are wreaking havoc on vehicles, and a growing number of irresponsible drivers are threats to life and limb of people.

At the height of heavy rains last Thursday, for instance, businessman Benjamin Angeles was driving near the Southwoods exit at 5:30 p.m. when he almost rammed against a Hagar towing truck that had no red parking light on the rear. "Tow truck drivers are supposed to be partners in traffic enforcement and they should lead by example," Angeles pointed out.

He also called on traffic enforcers assigned to bottleneck areas around the Sta. Rosa exits to be at their post before traffic build-up in the morning—not when the traffic is already so bad that it takes them hours to de-clog the mess. "If they're around early

enough, they can discipline unruly drivers of big trucks and shuttle services coming and going at the techno parks, to say the least of buses, jeepneys and private vehicles."

Elsie Kalaw Santos is calling on concerned authorities to do something about the perennial potholes on the elevated road leading to the west or east service roads at Nichols. "I have never seen it in good condition. Big potholes cause the chaotic traffic situation in the area."

Emergency lifeline service

Hopefully, the newly launched 24-hour emergency service of PNOC and Lifeline Arrows Medical Specialists will reduce death toll on South Luzon Expressway. According to PNOC president Luis Sison, the lifeline service provides on-the-spot first aid and life support to victims of accidents on tollways.

We advise SLEX motorists to memorize the following emergency tel-

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron



ephone number as it could mean life and death—16911

Prepaid lemons

EDWIN Agsaooy of Tandang Sora, QC, wrote: "I bought a Vortal Internet prepaid card good for four hours at a computer shop in Alabang Town Center. I thought it would provide a faster Internet connection. But to my great disappointment, I could not connect. I have called their 24-hour customer service hotline and other sales numbers, and I have been sending messages to the e-mail address and websites printed on the card. None of the addresses seem to be working."

We tried all the contact numbers mentioned by Agsaooy. None worked. If Vortal has a new shop, please get in touch with your customer at e-mail address: ejagsaooy@edsamail.com.ph.

From Sherick N. of animasurme@edsamail.com.ph: "I bought two Phil-World Online prepaid cards. Both don't connect at all. The customer care numbers are not working either and the office telephone trunk line is also out of service. What's wrong? If they're out of business, why don't they recall their prepaid cards from store outlets? I could not return my cards because the numbers have already been scratched."

Readers' comments

CABLE TV subscriber Harry Y. of Sta. Mesa wrote: "Home Cable axed the Channel [V] Chinese version and instead introduced three premium Chinese channels called Jade Channel, for an additional subscription fee

of P350 plus cost of a converter cable box, which incidentally, does not include Channel [V] Chinese version. Do they think all Chinese are rich? I had been complaining to their customer service office, but they don't seem to bother. All I am asking is for them to restore the Chinese version."

Charlie Smith wrote: "Watching the full show is an aggravation. To begin with, there are just too many commercials in-between movies. When we saw the last full show of 'Pearl Harbor' at SM North Edsa, we had to sit through 15 ads! It was bad enough that the air-conditioning system was either shut off or was not functioning fully. What made it even worse were interruptions throughout the screening. At certain points, the screen would go blank."

"That was not the end of our aggravations. The taxi drivers who lined up along the SM curbs refused to convey us to our destination, and it was raining at that. Why doesn't SM

have a customer-service booth to police these bad taxi drivers?"

From Benjamin Subido: "How come the sound of television commercials are several decibels louder than those of the main features? It can be very irritating, particularly at night when you try to lower the sound volume of your television. There are new TV sets that automatically modulate the sound, but these are still very expensive. For the sake of public service, the KBP or the adboard should do something about it."

Bong Lucero of singama@yahoo.com wrote: "Advertisements posing as informative features should be classified as ads, and should be indicated as such. Quite often, these are published by newspapers and magazines as news articles, science or educational features. There should be a footnote to say these are paid ads."

E-mail the author at mgiron@cs.com.ph.



EK'S NEW PROMO WINNER IS A DOCTOR

Dr. Madel Sadili (second from right, in white shirt), a pulmonologist at the Makati Medical Center, was randomly picked as the Lucky Visitor of the Week at Enchanted Kingdom on June 30. Sadili is the second winner of EK's ongoing weekend rainy day promo, which started on June 23. "This is great! It makes a person feel good," she says. Sadili and her kids, namely Mica, Malta and David, a visiting friend from the US Med Samiento and yaya Reinette were assigned a special park escort who saw to it that they did not queue for their rides. They also enjoyed bundles of gifts from Pepsi, Knott's Berry Farm, Wrigleys and EK souvenir shops, a dinner at the Amazon Grill plus other perks of the park's ongoing Rainy Day Specials. Suspense and excitement continue this weekend as park officials whip up another surprise welcome for the next lucky visitor. The treat runs until Aug. 12

Buy-one, take-one sale of Warner collectibles

UNTIL July 15, devoted fans of the Looney Tunes, Powerpuff Girls, Scooby Doo, DC Comics Superheroes Batman and Superman as well as fans of the hit television series "Friends" and "ER" can go to the Warner Bros. Studio Stores to get the latest collectibles on sale. Buy any item of WBSS line of apparel, accessories, toys, watches and other great stuff and get two for the price of one. Warner Bros. Studio Stores are located at the Glorietta 4, Alabang Town Center and Robinsons Galleria.

GARDEN WORKSHOP. King Louis Flowers and Plants, with Floral Arts and Crafts Design Center Inc., will conduct workshops on flower arrangements. The workshops will be held every Sunday of July at the King Louis Flowers and Plants cold storage facilities at the Manila Seedling Bank, Edsa, QC. The workshop has three components—lecture, demonstration on flower arrangements and hands-on participation. Fee is P500. Call 725-8986, 722-8644, 929-4110/7.

FOOD EXPO. San Miguel Food Group Culinary Food Center, Asahi Beer of Japan and Festival Supermall present "Food Expo 2001" on July 12-18 at the Expo Trade Hall, 4/L Festival Supermall, Filinvest, Alabang. Call 820-7879/1570.

LECTURE. The Philippine Literary Arts Council launches "Homage: The PLAC Literary Lecture Series on the Masters" on July 11 at the UST Center for Creative Writing and Studies.

MEETING. The UP College of Pharmacy Class '52 will hold monthly meetings starting July 14. Regular planning meetings will be held every second Saturday of the month at Carlita Generoso-Yap's residence, 11 G. Sanchengco St., Santol, QC. Call 713-7835.

SEMINAR. ProActiveCenter for Training will hold a seminar/workshop on catering management on July 16-24, 1-5 p.m., at Encore! Encore! 2/L Building A, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City. Call 823-4947.

WORKSHOP. A weekend workshop dubbed "An Introduction to a Course in Miracles: Creating Heaven on Earth" will be held on July 7 and 8, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at IPF Center, 8-C Urdaneta 6735 Ayala Ave., Makati City. Call 816-0101.

LECTURE. The Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation Inc. offers a basic photography course on Aug. 12 at the Yslas Restaurant, Fort Santiago, Intramuros, Manila.

AWARD. De La Salle Lupa is seeking the recipient of its highest institutional award, dubbed as the Makabayan Award. The recipient must be a Batangueño who has displayed commitment, competence and heroism, and at the same time, has been doing services to his/her fellowmen without regard to publicity, reward or political gains. S/he must have permanently resided in the province for at least 10 years, of exemplary moral character and without any political affiliations. Call (043) 981-1100, 756-1849/1887/2491 local 208 or fax (043) 756-3117. Deadline for nomination is on Oct. 31.

SEMINAR. The Inner Mind Development Institute offers seminars and workshops: "Inner Mind Development," today, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; "Soul Mates, Karma and Reincarnation," July 14, 1-7 p.m., and the "Basic ESP and Intuition Development," July 21-22, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. All seminars will be held at 308 Prince Plaza Building 1, 106 Legaspi St., Greenbelt, Makati. Call 892-6806 or 810-7245.

CONFERENCE. A conference on "World Peace through Education and Culture" is set on July 21, 1-5 p.m., at the Intramuros Function Room of the Manila Midtown Hotel, Pedro Gil Street, Malate, Manila. Call 371-7015/6.

CEO SEMINAR. The Philippine Seminars Inc. will be holding a CEO Spirit seminar on July 16-22 at the Fairways and Bluewater Resort Golf and Country Club, Boracay Island, Malay, Aklan. Call 633-6079/4943 or 892-2520.

Splash promo winners announced

IF you joined Splash Manufacturing Corp.'s "Amazing Tricks, Stylish Treats," you could be the proud owner now of a state-of-the-art Compaq Presario 3200 series with an ultra fast printer. Felix Martinez of Las Piñas City won this super cool gadget. Attended by the officers and distributors of Splash and Cionty Bonachra, Bureau of Food and Drugs representative, the raffle draw was held at Splash office in HBC Corporate Center, Mindanao Avenue corner Quirino Highway, Novaliches, QC, on June 20.

Winners of equally attractive and valuable prizes are: Ivy Maureen Abellera and Alicia Valerio, one unit each of Palm Pilot M100; Dionepher Hidalgo and Jackie Lou Balugo, one unit each Nokia 3310; Riza Ragas and Shirley Cleofas, one unit each of a Sony PlayStation 1; Edwood Mawrai and Ja Cabrera, one unit each of Sony Disamans; and Perita De Villa and Jendi Macario Busog, one unit each of scooter trolley.

Winners of Tricks special gift packs are Marife Rosano, Evelyn Calzado, Haydee delos Santos, Belinda Cruz, Mary Ann Octavio, Annabelle Antomo, Jennifer Paltugalan, Elvira Palmon, Annabelle Noccon and Noel del Mundo.

Winners will be notified as to when and where to claim their prizes via telegram. Prizes not claimed after 60 days upon receipt of telegram will be forfeited.

Join "Amazing Tricks, Stylish Treats" second leg. Here's how you can participate.

Starting June 28, you're entitled to get a haircut/hairstyle from award-winning hairstylists absolutely free and four raffle coupons when you buy P100 worth of Tricks products at the Tricks Hairstyle Studio.

Purchase of any Tricks product for less than P100 entitles the holder to a raffle coupon. Promo will end on Aug. 29 and winners will be drawn on Aug. 31.

Let Tricks products such as the Styling Gel, Setting Lotion, Hair Polish and Hair Polish Lite and the latest addition to the line, namely, Tricks Styling Gel Strong Hold Diversity & Vitality and Tricks Styling Gel Xtreme Hold Fusion & Rave do the gimmick for you.

New Tricks Styling Gel Strong and Xtreme Hold contain Benzophenone-4 contain an ingredient that protects hair against the harmful and drying UV rays of the sun.

Tricks Hairstyle Studio will be making the rounds of your favorite malls, namely, Robinsons Galleria, Robinsons Place, Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall and the Ever Gotesco Malls (Grand Central, Recto, Commonwealth and Ortigas). You can find the "Amazing Tricks, Stylish Treats" raffle drop box at the Tricks Hairstyle Studio and participating outlets.



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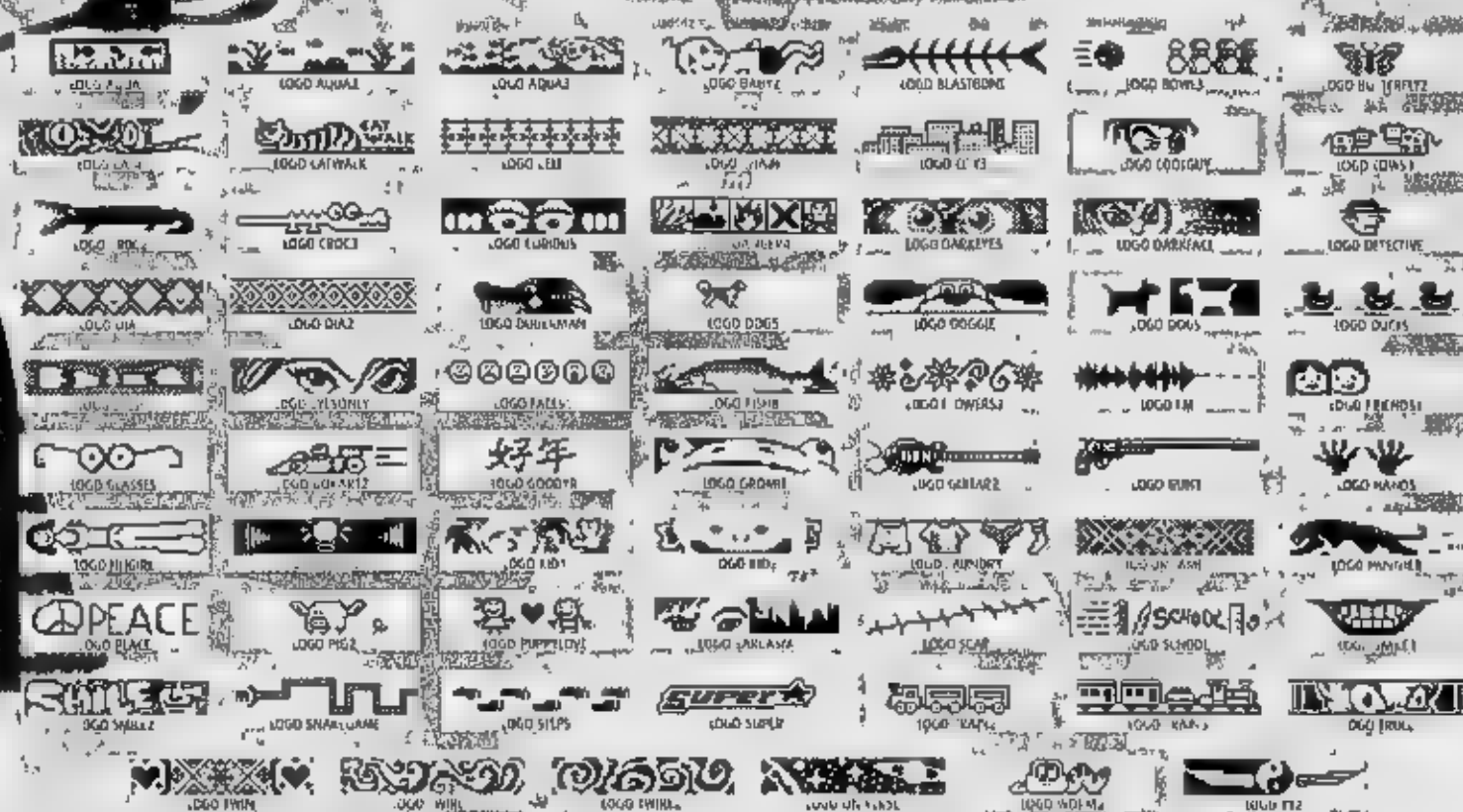
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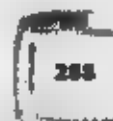
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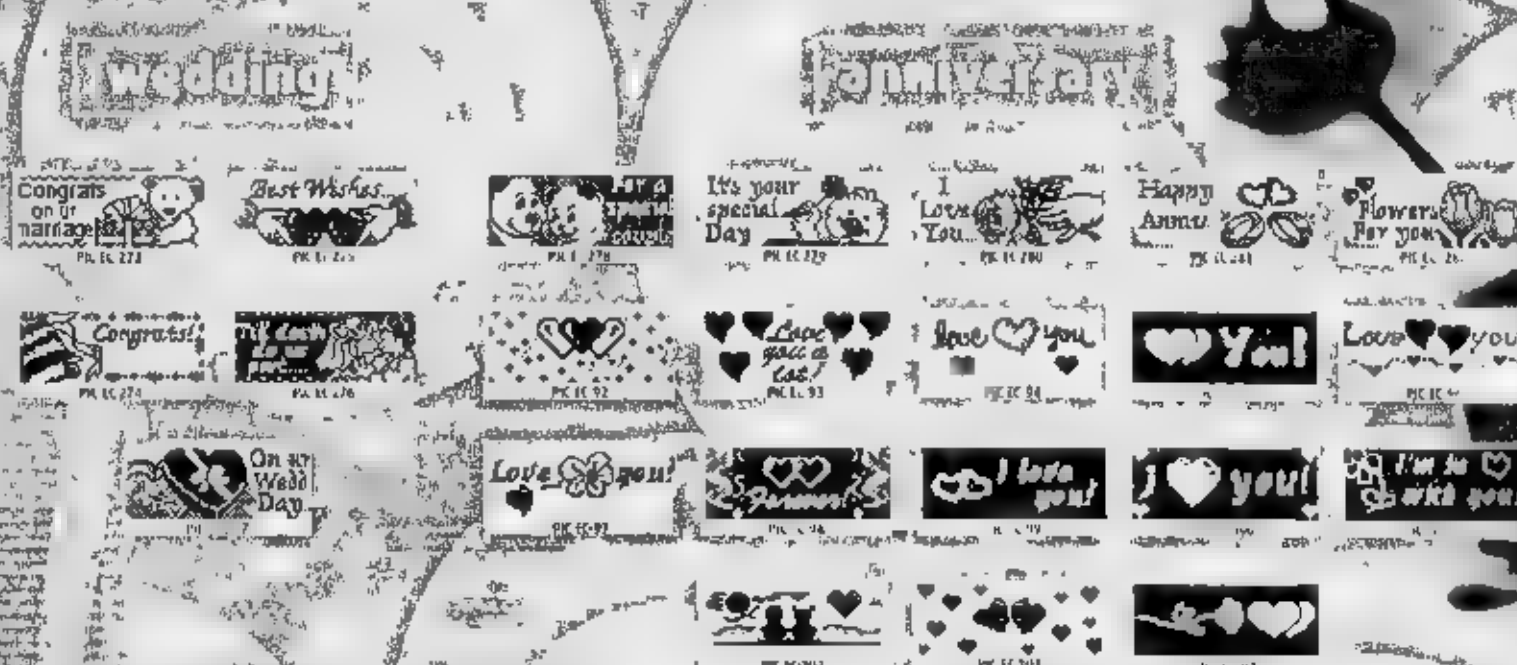


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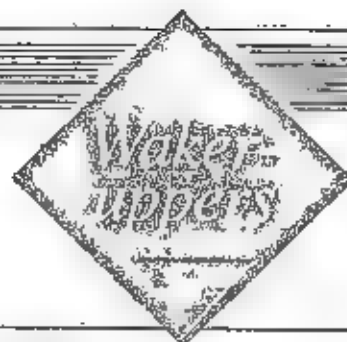


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Learn more regarding the new

Sunday LIFESTYLE



And you thought Pinoy movies were only for the 'bakya' crowd

COMPILED BY CHELO BANAL FORMOSO



SPOTTED at the recent Rockwell movie premiere of Star Cinema's "Mila," starring Maricel Soriano, was the trio of Inno Sotto, who is Maricel's designer of choice, Cibo owner Galia Fores and her sister, talent manager Veana Fores. It's good to see that members of Manila's high society are appreciative and supportive of local films. Also seen at the premiere was former presidential balae Marites Lopez and her closest chums enjoying the latest Soriano starrer about an educator who became the cause celebre for struggling teachers.

By hook there's no crook

WOMEN often have to worry about where to keep their purses when dining in restaurants. It



is most uncomfortable to be cutting your filet mignon with your purse in your lap. Sometimes you grab an extra chair

and let your purse sit there, but since you can't be too careful nowadays, you still feel anxious and you end up watching your purse between

YOU/p.G2

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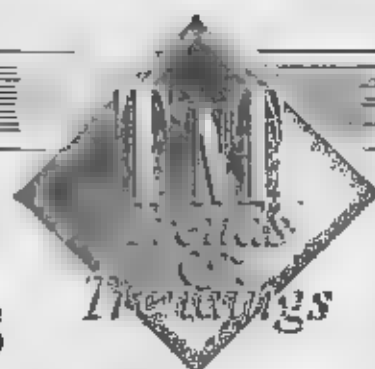
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2. Pakin a parada sa address na ibang Unlimited Promotions Inc., 3407
Xenia St., Pasig City, Manila. For mailed in entries, isulat din sa
ibang ng envelope kung sa Luzon, Visayas o Mindanao galing ang entry.
3. Deschero for submission of entries to on August 18, 2001. 5p.m.

Per DDA-BAD Perrelli Inc. 0919 Series of 2001



Gay Pride celebration, 'no makeup' directive for Cathay stewards and what's out in parties

By ANTON SAN DIEGO

MUST (NOT)-HAVE look— Mono or uni brows. This is a twist to TNT's must-have's for this week. A must-not-have. It's more frightening than people with ugly feet—those with mono/uni-brows (one eyebrow). They remind me of Dracula, the werewolf and Oscar the grouch. Many macho men sport this. But what's worse is when women have it as well. It's like having hair in their armpits, arms, legs and upper lip. Although skinny eyebrows are sexy and thick eyebrows are a sign of virility, uni-brows nevertheless are hideous. So buy some tweezers and ask your wife or girlfriend to redesign it. With women, it's time for a makeover.

Diary of Constance Brooke
San Lorenzo Peadleton—Disco Inferno.

This week our intrepid societe celebrates Gay Pride with the Velvet Mafia. Despite her fabulousness, not to mention her vintage YSL, they focused their attention on the boys and for the first time in her life got dumped and left alone in the streets of Malate!

If you weren't at the Gay Pride party on Ma. Orosa Street in Malate last Saturday you are really out (no pun intended). It was the white hot center of the universe. I started the evening by inviting the Velvet Mafia over to my house for drinks. The Velvet Mafia have this insatiable need to have cocktails before going anywhere. After consuming half a case of my precious Brannvia, we were sloshed. To a rising chorus of "fabulous, fabulous" I then dressed to go to the party. Being a street party, I figured I would have to rough it a bit so I put on a vintage Saint Laurent top (think the Ballet Russe collection from the 1970s) and my new pair of Chloe Jeans and, of course, a pair of Manolos (big mistake—but I'll come to that later). Before leaving, I also made sure to take my teaspoon of olive oil to line my stomach.

So we finally got to the party around half past one, drunk out of

our minds but still looking fabulous. It seemed we were the only ones who were seriously sloshed—I wonder if the current economic climate might have something to do with this abstinence? Or could it be an unnatural obsession with health? Perhaps the latter because I have never seen so many buffed men in my life! (The Velvet Mafia, fabulous as they are, will never be mistaken for gym bunnies.) It was just so vibrant. What is it about gays that make them so attractive? Even the less velvety ones are certainly more attractive and more fun than the average man on the street. Plus, I recognized all the songs—from my heyday in the late 1970s and early 1980s—Le Club Sept, Le Palace, Area, Studio 54. Ah, the memories of my misspent youth! One thing about kids these days—they've forgotten how wonderful it is to sing along with the music—think "It's Raining Men," "So Many Men So Little Time" and, of course, the gay national anthem "I Will Survive" and "Believe" (it's a generation thing). A celebration of life is what it was.

I felt young again! To paraphrase Nan Darlen, I was now in touch with my inner homosexuality! The velvet Mafia never stopped plying me with Cosmopolitans—most of which ended up on my blouse! In retrospect, perhaps running around in 4-inch stilettos with an oversized cocktail glass in my hand in the middle of a very crowded street party and even more crowded bars may not have been the best idea. But, at the time, it just seemed so right. Apart from the fact that I was trying desperately to shield my hair from the seemingly large number of fags of the champagne variety (you never know when muscle memory might kick in and make them suddenly want to shampoo your hair) I was having the best fun. I will admit that the booze probably had something to do with my euphoric state.

Then, I noticed two younger men I used to date but then, oops (big oops here) I also noticed that they were locked in embraces with other



MUST (NOT)-HAVE LOOK - Mono or Unibrow

equally attractive men! How could this be? They were so good in bed! Well, I ran (actually sort of staggered) over to see for myself and they both told me that they preferred not to be labeled and just now they were really into their boyfriends! What can I say? Gay shame has turned into gay pride! Which makes for an interesting observation—75 percent of the people at the party looked like the boy next door—apart from the fact that they like to sleep with men. There was no indication (at least to me) that they were gay! But more troubling was the fact that, unlike my Velvet Mafia, the fags these days don't seem to like women very much (the Velvet Mafia adore stylish women). And, the women that were there didn't seem very stylish at all.

Well, I guess as they sang that Disney song, "A whole new world." By this time, the scene with the Velvet Mafia was rapidly turning into a scene from Fellini (vodka will do that to you every time—even Brann-

vin). One of them was singing "Un Bel Di" at the top of his lungs in a shrill voice. Another was kissing what to my alcohol-muddled mind looked like a Filipino version of Nerol Quo vadis Cio Cio San! To top things off, if shoes can will, well, my Manolos were melting! One of my stilettos actually snapped.

You have to understand that Manolos are limousine shoes—one goes from the limo to the venue and back. These shoes should barely touch the pavement. Well, far from just touching the pavement, I think this was a bear hug and my poor Manolos were in deep distress. Between the effects of the vodka, the wetness of my blouse (from the spilt Cosmopolitans), the distraught Manolos and the not to be pook pooked shock of seeing my two boy toys with other boy toys, this was turning into the longest three hours of my life! And, my normal olive oil remedy was not working! So I looked around for my faithful Velvet Mafia only to discover that they had disappeared!

After looking frantically all around the street for them (qu'est que cette vision) I realized that they had all left (with dates I might add and at least one with six barbecues and a date). My mama always said a girl should never be without her car and driver. I should have listened to my mama. Instead, I ended up staggering around Malate deeply sloshed and desperate for a taxi. I still wonder just how I got home. But then as Blanche du Bois said, "I have always relied on the kindness of strangers" and I made it home safe. But I remain a bit cross with my Velvet Mafia for just dumping me for greener pastures. I guess no matter how fabulous you are, boys will always be boys—particularly when there are other boys around! Such is the downside of being a fag hag I guess.

However, it ended, I did have the best time and I intend to be there again next year. But I intend to be in a white T-shirt, jeans and my Converse Jack Purcellis (just like Jackie O) and my car and driver. If you want to attend a celebration of life, I suggest you go too.

TNT tidbits. For those who are looking for the perfect shirt or blouse, look no further. Ascot Chang, makers of fine quality and custom-made shirts, features a new selection of fabrics. Located at Makati Shangri-La, it has an ongoing sale on RTW items with 20-25 percent discounts. For more information, call 867-2205.

No makeup for Cathay stewards. For Asian males who like using makeup, Cathay Pacific issued the following directive in its June crew newsletter: "No foundation, eye liner or makeup is allowed for male crew while in uniform." No word yet if they're following the route of the military.

How to know you're out. I was on my way to a Makati hotel gym when I saw a group of women dressed like gift wrappers in the lobby. I was really taken aback by the excess yards of tulle and satin, not to mention the high Aqua-net sprayed hair and chunks of jewelry

It was the birthday of a former mare (nope, it wasn't Constance) who was having a costume party. This got me thinking about this week's list, which is how to know when you're out. Enjoy.

1. You are invited to theme birthdays to live out your fantasies like sarong parties, Buckingham parties (when everyone dresses like royalty: from Marie Antoinette to Queen Victoria) and luau.

2. When you get to a party/reception/wedding to find the hosts have seated you next to the speakers or near the bathroom.

3. You're asked to cut ribbons for unknown parlors and modistas.

4. PR practitioners and event planners don't invite you to their parties anymore and if they do, the invite comes a week later.

5. No one takes your pictures during parties, even if you are wearing all your jewelry.

6. When you give a party, the only ones who show up are the waiters and the DJ's.

7. If you have a theme, no one follows it.

8. In a party no one speaks to you but the waiters, and that's only to ask for your drink.

9. They give you the bill for the food and drinks you have consumed in the party.

10. When someone introduces himself to you and then turn pale and say, "I thought you were in jail."

Erratum: In last week's TNT under the heading, "10 ways to keep your sanity in a crisis" I said, "If you're watching TV and you see lawyers Siegfried Fortun and Rene Saguisag, turn it off. You wouldn't want to have nightmares when you're asleep." I received an e-mail from Mrs. Fortun saying her husband Siegfried is not involved in the ex-president's case but his brother Raymond. My apologies. Now that we know which brother, if you watch TV and see Raymond Fortun, turn it off or the nightmares might continue.

E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com

And you thought Pinoy movies were only for the 'bakya' crowd

(From page G1)

bites. The truth is bag snatchers are always a step ahead of you. They keep coming up with new tricks to divert your attention so they can divest you of your mobile phone or, worse, the entire caboodle. How wonderful then to discover a restaurant that has taken note of this particular need of women. Café Victoria at the Festival Mall has installed hooks under the tables where women diners can hang their purses.

Exhibitionist Montano

AT THE OPENING of the Faces and Forms exhibit featuring Ronnie Salvacion's photographs of action star and new Hanford image model Cesar Montano in earnest pursuit of the body buffed, one libtizer remarked it was unlikely that Montano was wearing Hanford briefs underneath his elegant threads (Hugo Boss, usually) that evening. Upon hearing this, Montano promptly untucked his shirt and showed off his undergarment's label. It said Hanford. Of course, his very pregnant wife, actress Sunshine Cruz, and the Mansfield team that showed up in full force—brothers Victor, Philip and Ivan Te and their respective wives Sincerely, Jocelyn and Betty—beamed with pride.

Good idea, but is it doable?

SINCE Edsa II, Filipinos have started to believe again that they can make things happen, perhaps swing the odds in their favor here and there to make life better. Came May Day Eve, the bubble burst and everybody looked around for someone else to blame. That fateful day the rubble at last drew attention to their plight.

Some readers have suggested that newspapers, the INQUIRER in particular, work out a way for ordinary readers to meet with government officials and engage in free-wheeling discussions on a topic of particular import to readers. Better still, they added, make it a one-on-one meeting, up close and personal. One reader sits down with one official, and by the end of the conversation, the reader comes away feeling better because someone has taken the time to listen and the official... well, hopefully, he will get something out of the meeting, a chance to redeem his soul, perhaps?

One reader has even suggested that the conversation be published, sans editing, so the nation and its leaders will have an idea of what the common tao thinks are important.

Already, there are existing TV and radio programs that intervene on behalf of ordinary citizens and get government agencies, even private outfits, to act on their pleadings. GMA's "Imbestigador" easily comes to mind.

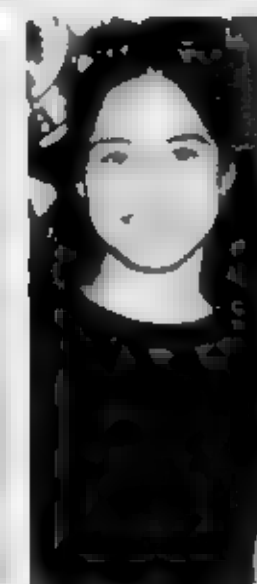
However, to actually ask a cabinet secretary or senator or mayor to set aside some time and meet with Juan de la Cruz when elections are over may be asking for the moon. But then again, isn't that what public service is supposed to be about?



MONTANO with manager Norma Japitana



YEANA Fores



GAITA Fores

So, let's give it a try, shall we? If you're a reader who wants to have an audience with any public official, write us about your cause, complaint, confession or why you would like a one-on-one with a particular person in government. We will do our damndest to hook you up with Mr. or Ms. Public Servant.

We can't guarantee that life will be bliss after your face-off, but you will at least be able to vent your views or blues, whatever the case may be.

Before you swipe it, check the signature

SOMEONE picks your purse and runs away



with your credit cards. You report the loss immediately. Next thing you know, your credit card statement contains a bill for P40,000 at one of the largest department store chains. How did that happen? Criminals work fast and chances are they beat you to the store before you reported the loss. And before anybody at the card company could act on your misfortune, someone had bought a major kitchen appliance in your name.

But here's another grievance of the poor consumer. How is it possible that a major and reputable department store accepts a charge without checking if the signatures on the receipt and on the card match? The lawbreaker who gets his hand on your card has got to be an excellent forger for the signatures to match.

Could it be that sales clerks are only after the sale and don't pay attention to important details like signatures? Are sales clerks trained to spot disparities in signatures?



Just checking

AN INQUIRER executive made two purchases over the phone and charged them to her credit card. Shortly thereafter, she got a call from the card company verifying if she had indeed used her card for two purchases that day. The caller also asked her for details such as her billing address, her mother's maiden name, her place of work, etc., as a way of confirming that she was, indeed, the account holder.

While some consumers might find answering such questions an affront, many more should applaud the procedure because it is the only way a credit card company could be sure the shopper charging her purchases on the account is truly the person who owns the card.

Free speech, via e-mail

YOU guys are unbelievable! I cannot believe you allowed Mr. (Tim) Yap to post those pictures, especially the picture of the two men kissing (PDI Lifestyle, 07/04/01).

I am not homophobic, but what is this world turning into? Do you guys have a gay agenda in your newspaper? Those pictures are more suited for gay magazines and trash like that, but not in a newspaper like INQUIRER. Those pictures were truly tasteless and that article was unbelievable.

Mr. Yap should know that there is a very big difference between tolerance and acceptance. Don't push it.

LOY FORTUNA

There's no gay agenda, only a reality agenda. The photo in question was shot at a gay pride party. We show men kissing and people like you don't like it. We show men hacking each other to death and other people don't like it. Taste is subjective. Also, not all gay magazines are trash although some hetero magazines are.—Ed

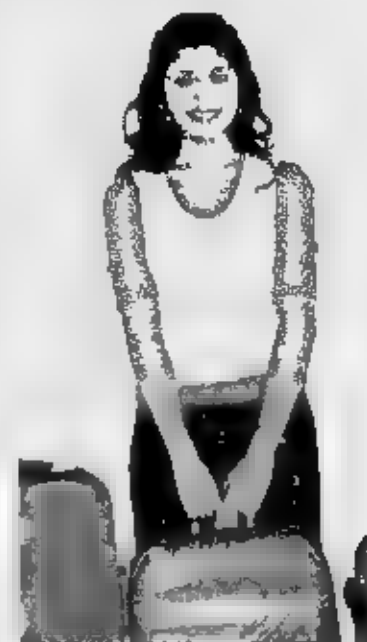
Filipino faces to grace Benetton ads

THE FIRST EVER locally held international Benetton Image Model Search culminated in Manila where Tim Yap and Rissa Samson were chosen to represent Benetton Phils. in the international photo shoot to be held in New York City. Although Benetton traditionally picks its own models to showcase its latest collections, this time Filipino faces will grace Benetton's billboards, catalogs, print ads and posters all over the world.

Arriving promptly for the early morning shoot, Rissa could not contain her excitement as clothes, shoes and bags soon filled the studio of Raymond Isaac.

"Fun, fun, fun and more fun" was how Rissa described her first pictorial for Benetton. With so much energy and excitement in the air, nothing beats a Benetton shoot. This being her first trip to the Big Apple, Rissa will surely grab the opportunity to paint the town red, and with Tim Yap as her personal tour guide, there will be no doubt that the trip will be a memorable one.

Tim Yap is known for his cool parties and great events. But not many people know the other side of him. In fact, he doesn't even know this side of him, the side which has begun to understand and enjoy the thrills of being a model, especially for Benetton. Tim felt initial jitters as he had only done ramp shows



RISSA Samson

for friends, but this versatile young man quickly got the hang of it.

Tim believes he connects very well with the brand as they share a common ideal. "Benetton stands for an optimistic lifestyle with a clean set of values." With a weekly events column, Tim's mission statement is youth empowerment—for the young generation to take a stand and follow their dreams.

Benetton is exclusively distributed by Benetton Boutiques, a part of the Gift Gate Group.



TIM Yap

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M1

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MANAGERIAL

will soon open its door in Davao. We are inviting people-oriented and dynamic professionals to be part of our team as:

OPERATIONS GROUP**BUILDING ADMINISTRATION MANAGER (OG-BAM)**

- not over 30 years old
- graduate of Business Administration, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering
- at least 3 years work experience in building administration

SELLING MANAGERS / SUPERVISORS (OG-SM / S)

- female, not over 30 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course
- at least 1 year experience in retail operations, food chain or in sales in the same capacity

CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGERS / SUPERVISORS (OG-CSM / S)

- female, not over 30 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course
- with pleasing personality and has strong customer focus and has enthusiasm and patience in handling inquiries and concerns
- at least 1 to 2 years related work experience in customer service or customer relations

COUNTER / CHECKING MANAGERS / SUPERVISORS (OG-CCM / S)

- female, not over 32 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course
- at least 1 year experience in counter or credit card transactions in the same capacity

WAREHOUSE MANAGERS / SUPERVISORS (OG-WM / S)

- male, not over 32 years old
- graduate of Commerce or Industrial Engineering
- with extensive experience in warehousing and other related functions

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SUPERVISORS / REPRESENTATIVES (OG-CRS / R)

- male, 5'5 1/2" in height, 22-32 years old
- female, 5'2" in height, 21-32 years old
- graduate of BS Criminology or at least 2nd year college
- flexible to different work assignments
- with pleasant disposition and developed motivational skills

Candidates for the position should have the following competencies:

- excellent communication skills both in verbal and written form
- can relate well to all levels of the organization
- proficient in computer software applications
- team-player, goal-oriented and able to work well under pressure

SUPPORT / ADMIN. GROUP**TRAINING OFFICERS (SAG-TO)**

- not over 32 years old
- graduate of Education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year business course
- at least 2 years related work experience in human resource development
- knowledgeable in the conduct of training needs analysis, design, implementation and evaluation of training programs and activities related to behavior and skills development of employees

PERSONNEL OFFICERS / SUPERVISORS (SAG-PO / S)

- not over 32 years old; preferably female
- graduate of Law, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year business course
- at least 3 years work experience in all facets of personnel management
- willing to work on weekends and holidays

ACCOUNTING OFFICERS / SUPERVISORS (SAG-AO / S)

- not over 32 years old
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- at least 2 years related work experience in a supervisory capacity and adept in all accounting operations

DESIGN OFFICERS (SAG-DEO)

- not over 28 years old
- graduate of Architecture, preferably licensed
- knowledgeable in AutoCAD

DISPLAY OFFICERS (SAG-DO)

- male or female, not over 3 years
- graduate of Fine Arts, Advertising or Interior Design or any related 4-year course
- at least 1 year experience in visual merchandising

OPERATORS / TECHNICIANS (SAG-PCOT)

- not over 28 years old
- graduate of Computer Science / Engineering
- preferably experienced in the repair, trouble shooting and maintenance of cash registers

ENGINEERING OFFICERS (SAG-EO)

- male, 25-30 years old
- graduate of Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, preferably licensed
- at least 1 year supervisory experience in building operations/property management

SECRETARY (SAG-SEC)

- not over 28 years old
- graduate of Economics, Management or any 4-year business course
- at least 1 year related work experience

NURSES (SAG-N)

- female, not over 32 years old
- graduate of BS Nursing, preferably licensed
- at least 2 years in a medical establishment or as a Company Nurse

TREASURY SUPERVISORS (SAG-TS)

- female, not over 32 years old
- graduate of Accounting or Banking and Finance
- at least 2 years supervisory experience in accounting funds management or treasury functions
- familiar with banking operations and Central Bank procedures

Interested parties may send their comprehensive resumé with recent photo to:

THE RECRUITMENT DIVISION MANAGER
 400 Carlos Palanca St., Quiapo, Manila
 Position Code: _____

Metro Manila based applicants may also apply personally from Mon. to Fri., 9 a.m. — 5 p.m.
 E-mail: RECRUIT@shoemart.com.ph



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 of

TRAINING MANAGER

- ☑ Male or female, not more than 40 years old
- ☑ Graduate of a Behavioral Science course or other related course, preferably with master's degree
- ☑ Must have a minimum of three (3) years experience in handling human resources development in supervisory or preferably managerial capacity
- ☑ Must be flexible and can deal with any level of employee
- ☑ Can easily establish rapport and command respect
- ☑ Resourceful, creative and results-oriented
- ☑ Must have a pleasing personality and above-average oral and written facility

Qualified candidates are invited to submit personally their resumé with a recent 2x2 colored photo and certificates if any, at:

Director of Personnel
 Century Park Hotel
 599 Pablo Ocampo Sr. Street
 1004 Malate, Manila
 P.O. Box 117, CPO 1099, Manila, Philippines
 Tel. (632) 528-8888
 Fax (632) 528-1811; (632) 528-1812
 Internet: <http://www.centurypark.com>
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Our Company's vision is to be a global Filipino mining company by attaining world-class capabilities and becoming a corporate model in the fulfillment of social responsibilities.

To help us in this task, we are looking for

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- ☐ Must not be more than 35 years old
- ☐ Preferably a graduate of UP, Ateneo or San Bede
- ☐ With at least 3 years of actual experience in litigation
- ☐ Familiar in contract drafting, reviewing and negotiation
- ☐ Knowledgeable in labor issues, i.e. CBA, disciplinary actions
- ☐ Exposure in corporate law would be an advantage
- ☐ Member of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines
- ☐ Willing to travel to different parts of the country

PILOT

- ☐ 35 - 40 years old
- ☐ Must have an Airline Transport Rating of at least 2,500 flying hours with ratings in King Air Series
- ☐ Current safety training in turbo prop aircraft would be an advantage
- ☐ Computer literate in Windows application
- ☐ With excellent communication and strong leadership skills

A competitive compensation package awaits the successful candidates.

Interested candidates must send their letter of application, resumé w/ salary history, a 2X2 picture & transcript of records not later than July 22, 2001 to the:

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
 Lepanto Consolidated Mining Company
 201F BA-Lepanto Bldg., 8747 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
 email: cris.martinez@lepantomining.com

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Payroll Coordinator

Overall maintenance and upkeep of the company's Daily Time Recording (DTR) system, which is the main source of information for payroll processing. Assisting in performing its finance and accounting functions.

Qualifications: Accounting graduate. Working knowledge in payroll preparation (timekeeping). Detail-oriented. Analytical. Working knowledge in MS Office applications. Experience in handling MSI DTR software a definite plus.

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Obtain financial data for maintaining accounting records and substantiating business transactions. Reconcile bank statements as well as perform accounting clerk and bookkeeper duties. **Qualifications:** CPA. 2-3 years' experience in accounting. Knowledgeable in government reporting requirements and procedures. Solid experience with payroll preparation. Knowledgeable in computer applications

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Qualifications: College degree, internet and customer service skills. Great communication and good typing skills. For our more technical clients, eReps™ with technical know-how and experience may be required. Written and spoken foreign language skills is a plus!

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Responsible for developing application systems for PeopleSupport using Visual Basic, ASP and SQL. Will support a data warehouse and reporting system. **Qualifications:** Engineering or Computer Science graduate. Minimum of 3 years' responsibility as programmer or systems analyst. Excellent oral and written communication skills. Experience with leading software development technology such as ASP, VB, MS SQL Server and Crystal Reports. Willing to go to PeopleSupport's Corporate Headquarters for on-the-job training. Experience in web development, project management and exposure to software development methodologies a plus.

Operations Manager

Supervises Team Supervisors and manages the overall performance of the team for a specific account to hit quality standards, service and productivity levels as well as utilization objectives. Work with team management to determine factors that affect service levels, and develop and implement action plans. **Qualifications:** 3+ years' management experience in a 24/7 call center environment. Flexibility in adapting to a 24/7 operation.

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Works with eReps on the floor and makes real-time decisions to optimize resources and meet service issues and demands. Manages real-time performance and ensures that service levels are met. Also provides direct leadership, guidance, and support for a positive and productive work atmosphere. **Qualifications:** Customer service experience in a call center environment as a team supervisor. Excellent written and verbal communication skills. Ability to multi-task. Results-oriented. Demonstrated teamwork attitude.

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Candidates must have excellent connections with the business industries and be able to generate income for the company from the brokers and agents which can contribute to the company's business growth in the next two to three years. Candidates must be professionally qualified and knowledgeable of the insurance programs for individuals and corporate accounts.

MANAGER - UNDERWRITING

The candidates must possess knowledge of the major classes of insurance. Several years of insurance experience required preferably from the large insurance companies.

MARKETING ASSISTANT

Candidates must have good university degree in Business Administration or Sociology, and an insurance qualification is an advantage. Several years of working experience in the marketing department of an insurance company. Has proven record of successful working with the brokers in the insurance business.

Remuneration packages are negotiable with excellent fringe benefits. Interested candidates, please apply with your recent photographs to the Managing Director

Second Floor Citystate Centre
709 Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City
Tel. No. 637-1823

bench/classifieds

STORE OPERATIONS MANAGER

- Male/Female; not more than 35 years old;
- Marketing and Business Administration graduate of leading schools or universities;
- With experience gained from retailing or food chain operation or other service-oriented establishment;
- Fluency in oral and written English communication;
- Highly motivated, results-oriented and trustworthy;
- Good in planning, organizing, project handling and people management;
- Self-starter, honest, and with strong leadership skills;
- Willing to work long / irregular hours, frequently travel within the Philippines may be required.

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

- Male/Female; between 23-30 years old; with pleasing personality;
- Marketing or Business Administration graduate of leading schools and universities;
- Fluent in oral and written English communication;
- Preferably with work experience in retailing or food chain operations or other service-oriented establishment;
- Honest and with strong leadership skills;
- Those without experience but have strong interest in handling store operations may also apply.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

- Male/Female; between 22-28 years old;
- College graduate from a reputable school;
- Preferably with 1-2 years experience in Sales or Marketing cosmetics or other consumer products; personable, hard-working, results-oriented; persuasive and have good interpersonal communication skills.

Suyen Corporation

2214 Tolentino Street, Santa Clara,
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Male / Female, not more than 35 years old. Preferably with experience in MIS/Corporate Planning. The candidate shall provide support in the management of financial and operational MIS, institutionalization of corporate system, Operations and Financial Planning.

HUMAN RESOURCE ASSISTANT

Female, not more than 28 years old, and a graduate in Psychology. Should have experience in HR work for at least one year. She must be computer literate and proficient in oral and written communications.

RECORDS MANAGER

Female, not more than 30 years old, and an Accounting graduate. She must be computer literate and analytical.

JUNIOR AUDITOR

Male, at least 22 yrs. old, computer literate, graduate of BSC/BSCBA major in Accounting. Preferably CPA. He must have at least one year work experience as an auditor and should be good in oral and written communication.

Interested applicants are requested to submit their resume, & recent full picture to:

Human Resources Department
G & B Transport Corporation (AVIS Rent A Car)
45 Libertad St., Mandaluyong City

Fax no. 719-4082 / 933-0795

e-mail address: hrd_avis@avis.com.ph

Only those who pass initial screening will be called for interview.



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- Engineering graduate or its equivalent
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- Must be familiar with CNC machine operation and set up
- With good sense in quality matters
- Familiar with different Mitutoyo metric instruments
- Male, 27 years old and above

CASTING SUPERVISOR

- Engineering graduate
- With at least 2 years experience in Basic Casting Technology
- Computer literate, can work long hours and under pressure
- Male, not more than 35 years old

WAREHOUSE STAFF

- College graduate
- With knowledge on warehousing, inventory control and documentation
- Computer literate
- Know how to drive (valid) / with driver's license

WELDER

- At least vocational graduate
- With at least 1 year experience in industrial maintenance
- Male, 25 to 30 years old

Interested party are advised to apply in person with their updated resume, 2x2 photo, and transcript of records to:

ENKEI PHILS. INC.
Lot 7 Camalig Industrial Park
Cebu City, Cebu, Lapuna
(042) 548-0161-62

or e-mail us at myken@enkei.com.ph

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Since 1988, a successful distributor of food ingredients. For our expansion program we need:

CUSTOMER SALES REPRESENTATIVE

- Minimum 2 years industrial sales experience preferably in the food or related industries.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Personable, flexible and results-oriented.
- Computer literate.

The company offers above average compensation and benefits program. Please send your resume, ID picture, transcript of records to:

The Administration Manager
Cornell Foods Inc.
Unit E-1102 B, PSE Center, Exchange Road
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Female, 30 to 35 years of age, graduate of BS Chemistry, Chemical Engineering or other courses, with at least 2 years experience in the same position and in the same or related field, personable, has good communication skills, flexible and results-oriented.

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Preferably female, graduate of Chemical Engineering or other engineering related courses, with at least 1 year selling experience in chemicals, machines or other industrial products, or graduate of vocational course, with at least 1 year selling experience in the same or related field.

Interested applicants may come for interview on June 25-29, 2001 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at 6/F EL Tower Annex Building, #444 EDSA, Guadalupe, Makati City.

MANAGERIAL



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FOOD COURT MANAGER**

- at least three (3) years managerial experience in property development and building administration, or theater, or food court, or retail operations management, and human resources management;
- graduate of business or engineering;
- excellent communication skills and able to relate with all levels in the organization;
- computer literate; and
- not over 40 years old.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SERVICE MANAGER

- at least two (2) years managerial experience in security and safety operations, preferably with a property development/management or retail business;
- graduate of Criminology or any related course;
- with excellent communication skills, pleasant disposition, and able to relate well with all levels in the organization;
- flexible to different work assignments;
- not more than 32 years old; and
- at least 5'2" height for females, or 5'6" height for males.

TENANT RELATIONS OFFICERS

- one (1) year managerial experience in property development and building administration;
- licensed mechanical or electrical engineer, or graduate of mechanical/electrical engineering;
- computer literate;
- excellent communication skills; and
- not more than 30 years old

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

- at least one (1) year supervisory experience in administrative works, inventory management and control, preferably with a retail or property development enterprise;
- computer literate;
- above average communication skills; and
- not more than 28 years old

**OPERATIONS SUPERVISORS
[FOR MALL or FOOD COURT OPERATIONS]**

- graduate of any business, management or engineering course;
- computer literate, and one (1) year supervisory work experience, preferably with a retail or service business enterprise;
- excellent communication skills; and
- not more than 28 years old

**CHIEF PROJECTIONIST
[FOR CINEMA OPERATIONS]**

- at least three (3) years work experience as projectionist
- knowledgeable in minor troubleshooting and repair of cinema equipment;
- college level; and
- not more than 30 years old

LEASING

LEASING MANAGER

- at least one (1) year managerial experience in the area of property management and human resources management;
- graduate of any four-year business course, preferably Accounting or CPA;
- analytical, with excellent communication skills and able to relate well with all levels in the organization;
- not over 40 years old

LEASING SUPERVISORS

- at least one (1) year experience in the area of property management;
- graduate of any four-year business course, preferably Accounting;
- computer literate;
- with above average communication skills and able to relate well with all levels in the organization; and
- not over 30 years old

**CONTROLLERSHIP, TREASURY &
SATELLITE OFFICE**

**ACCOUNTING MANAGERS
TREASURY MANAGERS
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION MANAGER**

- Certified Public Accountant;
- at least three (3) years managerial experience in all facets of accounting or treasury or finance and administration operations;
- excellent communication skills and able to relate well with all levels in the organizations;
- proficient in computer software applications; and not more than 35 years old

TREASURY OFFICERS/SUPERVISORS

- at least two (2) years supervisory experience in treasury activities, preferably with a retail enterprise;
- computer literate;
- excellent communication skills; and
- not over 30 years old

SYSTEMS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER

- at least three (3) years managerial experience in the field of computer programming;
- graduate of computer science / engineering;
- excellent communication skills and able to relate well with all levels in the organization; and
- not more than 35 years old

**MARKETING
COMMUNICATIONS GROUP**

MARKETING MANAGER

- at least three (3) years managerial experience in the fields of advertising and promotions management, and human resources management;
- graduate of any four-year business course, preferably BS Fine Arts [Advertising] or Mass Communications;
- excellent communication skills and able to relate well in the organization; and
- not more than 35 years old

VISUAL DISPLAY OFFICER

- graduate of Bachelor of Fine Arts from a reputable University, a major in Interior Design will be an advantage;
- at least two (2) years related supervisory experience in art-related work preferably with a retail business enterprise;
- computer literate;
- excellent communication skills; and
- not more than 30 years old

Interested parties may send their resumé with 2"x2" ID photo to:

**THE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
Shopping Center Management Corporation**

Manila Address:

**4/F Benguet Center, ADB Avenue cor.
Julia Vargas St., Ortigas Center,
Mandaluyong City**

OR

Davao Address:

**Unit 4, Mezzanine Right, Central Plaza I Bldg.
JP Laurel Avenue, Davao City**

We are a foreign bank with an immediate opening for :

REMEDIAL ACCOUNT OFFICER

He/She must be a top caliber professional who will be mainly responsible for the restructuring of past due accounts.

Candidates must have a minimum of three (3) years work experience, preferably with a financial institution; tested managerial competencies, good oral and written communication skills, and must be willing to go on field work.

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MANILA**

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SONY

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is an excellent sales and marketing company dedicated to the vision of sharing Sony's dreams to its Filipino customers.

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We are in search of an

HRD MANAGER

- Male/Female age ranging from 35 to 40 years old,
- College graduate with strong background in Business Management and Behavioral Science (post-graduate units will be an added advantage);
- Proficient in computers particularly in Microsoft and other window-based software;
- 5 years solid management experience in conceptualization, design and conduct of various OD intervention programs;
- Strong background in Sales and marketing training would be an added advantage;
- Excellent communication skills both in verbal and written form;
- Excellent planning skills, Analytical, organized, decisive, with an eye for detail;
- Assertive, results-driven and able to work well under pressure;
- Team player, enthusiastic, and with good interpersonal skills;
- Must be knowledgeable also in other facets of HR operations.

We offer a very competitive compensation and benefits package and an exciting career in SONY. Qualified candidates may send their comprehensive resumé with a 2x2 ID picture, e-mail addresses and contact telephone numbers to:

**The Office of the HR Director
(Position Code: cm-hrd2001)
SONY PHILIPPINES INC.
26th Floor Tower 1, The Enterprise Center Building
6766 Ayala Avenue corner Paseo de Roxas
Makati City**

E-mail your resumé to enalega@sony.com.ph (no attachments please)

We will only contact qualified candidates.

MANAGERIAL

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

ADB

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

ASSISTANT SYSTEMS PROGRAMMER

The Position

- Responsible for installing and maintaining ADB's network infrastructure including all the servers and operating systems software, security software, and other related software in order to provide a reliable and effective information system;
- Install and configure hardware and/or software, and tools to ensure that these meet required functionality, performance, and compatibility standards;
- Assist and advise Operation Group in the operation of the network, servers, system software, and other related hardware;
- Resolves technical problems with the network and computer operating systems and related software in order to maintain systems reliability and availability;
- Assists Systems Development, Operations, and other sections' staff in resolving problems relating to operating systems and related software; provides support and assistance in use of operating systems and other software;
- Uses software to gather statistics on network and computer resource utilization and performance and assists with the tuning of the operating systems and related software to achieve desired performance levels.

The Requirements

- College degree in either Computer Science or IT, Electronics and Communications Engineering, or equivalent;
- At least two years of system administration experience in an open system and LAN environment; good knowledge and experience in the installation and maintenance of at least two of the following systems software: windows NT 4, Novell NetWare 5, and Sun Solaris; and
- Willingness to work after office hours and during weekends, if required.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 45 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. ADB staff members are expected to serve in any location outside Headquarters. For further information, please visit www.adb.org and look for Employment under Resources.

Send CV and cover letter by fax or mail quoting Ref. No. 01-16CS by 26 July 2001 to:

Tel: (63-2) 632-4444 HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
 Fax: (63-2) 636-2650 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
 E-mail: hr-jobs@adb.org P.O. BOX 789, 0880 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Online submissions should be in MS Excel format.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.



San Sebastian College - Recoletos
 C.M. Recto Manila
Human Resource Development Center



WE ARE IN NEED OF:

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Assist the principal researcher in the conduct of research projects, including instrumentation, data collection and processing. Reviews research findings.

- Baccalaureate Degree, preferably with post-graduate units, in a research-related field.
- Preferably Female.
- Excellent in Oral and Written Communication Skills.
- Computer Literate, Basic Knowledge in MS Office.

STATISTICIAN

Perform statistical analysis and research interpretation.

- Baccalaureate Degree, preferably with post-graduate units, in a research-related field. Math or Statistics Major
- Preferably Female.
- Excellent in Oral and Written Communication Skills.
- Computer Literate, Basic Knowledge in Statistical Software packages.

Other Vacancies: Campus Ministry Staff, Secretary Institute of Commerce

Human Resource Development Center, San Sebastian College - Recoletos, C.M. Recto Manila.
 Tel. # 7348931 - 39 loc. 325 or 103 look for Ms. Iris Carnice or Ms. Shirley Claro.
 Visit or send us your Curriculum Vitae through E-mail: hrd@sscrmi.edu.ph

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

ADB

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

ASSOCIATE ANALYST

The Position

- Reports to the Head of the Central Services section of the Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST);
- Assists in the management and administration of OIST's budget, procurements, contracts, billings and agency/contractor staffing;
- Assists in the preparation of the annual work program and monitors its implementation;
- Assists in the preparation of OIST's annual budget submission, mid-year budget review and revised estimate;
- Assists in the design, coding, testing and implementation of application systems to support OIST's administrative business processes;
- Processes procurement and contract requests from section heads and coordinates with Procurement and Contracts sections to ensure timely delivery of goods and services and to resolve problems as necessary;
- Reviews and processes requests for invoice payments; and
- Assists in the hiring and administration of agency staff and staff consultants.

The Requirements

- University degree in Business Administration, including courses in accounting and information technology;
- At least seven years' relevant experience including supervisory experience;
- Knowledge and understanding of budgeting, accounting, procurement, contracting, human resources and security procedures;
- Proficiency in Oracle Database, Lotus Notes, and MS applications, including ability to design, code and test application systems using these software platforms; and
- Familiarity with application systems that process budgeting, accounting, procurement and contracting transactions.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 45 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. ADB staff members are expected to serve in any location outside Headquarters. For further information, please visit www.adb.org and look for Employment under Resources.

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 Fax: (63-2) 636-2650 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
 E-mail: hr-jobs@adb.org P.O. BOX 789, 0880 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Online submissions should be in MS Excel format.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

ADB

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

ASSOCIATE MICROSYSTEMS ANALYST

The Position

- Responsible for providing technical assistance and advice on the use of PC application software;
- Installs software on microcomputers, ensuring that the software operates according to specification and user needs are properly addressed;
- Provides technical assistance, advice and guidance to users on operation of microcomputers, PC software and utilities, peripheral equipment, and data communication networks;
- Analyzes microcomputer problems to determine cause and provides appropriate procedures and software utilities to improve efficiency of the microcomputer and its user;
- Tests and evaluates software functionality and applicability to ADB needs;
- Provides hands-on training to ADB staff in the operation of microcomputers, application software, operating systems, and electronic mail;
- Conducts tutorials in advanced use of microcomputers and software to meet specialized user needs; and
- Assists in the analysis of user requirements for software, special functionality and connectivity and recommends and implements specialized hardware and software configurations to meet these user needs.

The Requirements

- Any four-year college degree with expertise in microcomputer hardware and operating systems;
- At least three years' experience in microcomputer technical assistance and user training;
- Proficient in use of word-processing, spreadsheets, data base, graphics, and utilities software; and
- Knowledge of microcomputer programming languages and concepts, as well as macro command languages for application programs.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 45 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. ADB staff members are expected to serve in any location outside Headquarters. For further information, please visit www.adb.org and look for Employment under Resources.

Send CV and cover letter by fax or mail quoting Ref. No. 01-16CS by 26 July 2001 to:

Tel: (63-2) 632-4444 HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
 Fax: (63-2) 636-2650 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
 E-mail: hr-jobs@adb.org P.O. BOX 789, 0880 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Online submissions should be in MS Excel format.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

THERE IS AN URGENT NEED FOR THE FF:

(1) LIAISON OFFICER

- 30-40 years old preferably male
- College graduate (any 4 year course)
- Must have at least 3 years work experience as a Liaison Officer.
- Must be computer literate

In addition, candidates for the above positions must have the following qualities:

- Hardworking and willing to work extended hours
- Able to relate and communicate with other people effectively
- Honest, conscious to details, and has good follow-through and initiative
- Able to fulfill his responsibilities within the prescribe time and with minimal supervision

Interested applicants may either fax their resumé to 723-1946 or submit their resumé to Ms. Judy Melitante at EMME Group of Companies, B/F State Finance Center II (beside POEA), Ortigas Avenue, Mandaluyong. For additional information, please call 723-6928. All applications must be in on or before July 16, Monday. Applicants will be screened and then interviews shall be done from July 17-21



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A highly diversified Conglomerate
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GENERAL MANAGER

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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

TELEPHONE OPERATOR

COMP. GRAPHICS DESIGNER

MIS & PROGRAM/SPECIAL EVENTS ORGANIZER

QUALITY CONTROL OFFICER

Applicants should possess relevant working experiences with proven accomplishments, preferably with well established corporations. Qualified parties should bring their resumé/credentials/references to 8th floor, Ramon Magsaysay Center, 1680 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila. Monday to Saturday during Office hours. Look for Mr. Go.

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MDH COFFEE CALIFORNIA
 LOCATED AT 8101 PEARL PLAZA BUILDING,
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 HIRING the following POSITIONS:

SHIFT MANAGERS (male/female)

- College level, Preferably HRM course
- Highly Presentable,
- High English proficiency

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- High School/College level

SERVICE OWEN/BEARTEENDERS (male/female)

- High School level

COMPUTER ADMINISTRATORS (male/female)

- he/she will be "in charge" in the 10-15 computers inside MDH COFFEE CALIFORNIA
- We offer computer rentals with the following services:
 - internet, network gaming, word processing, printing, scanning, etc.

* Previous work experience in a restaurant business, preferred.

** Previous work experience in a computer establishment (internet cafe, computer shop, etc.), preferred.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- PLS. ADDRESS ALL APPLICATIONS OR BIO DATA AT "MDH COFFEE CALIFORNIA"
- SEND THEM TO FAX NO. 809-0455 OR AT 27 MIRASOL ST. TAHAMAN VILLAGE SUCAT PARANAQUE, 1700 - ON OR BEFORE JULY 15, 2001
- WE WILL CALL YOU AS SOON AS ALL APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED.

WANTED

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

- Female, not more than 28 years old
- BS Commerce or Agribusiness
- 2-3 years work experience
- Computer literate and Accounting background

FOOD TECHNOLOGISTS

- Male or Female
- BS Foodtech, Nutrition, Chemist
- 2-3 years work experience
- Computer literate
- Willing to be based in Cebu

SUPPLY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

- Male, BS Agribusiness, Fisheries
- 1-2 years work experience
- Good in oral and written communication
- Willing to be assigned in the Visayan Region
- Visayan/Cebuano speaking preferably

PLEASE SEND YOUR RESUMÉ TO:

RGE Agridev Corporation
 Unit 2810, 28th Floor, Jollibee Plaza Bldg.,
 Emerald Avenue, Origas Center, Pasig City

MANAGERIAL/TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL



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Habitat for Humanity Philippines Foundation, Inc.

We are a non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry affiliated with Habitat for Humanity International. We are currently looking for experienced and qualified candidates with a sense of mission for the positions of:

NATIONAL OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

(Code: NOD)

to lead and direct the implementation of Habitat programs nationwide, as well as manage the planning, execution and monitoring of activities of area operations.

Qualifications:

- Must have a strong background experience in community development, house construction, program planning and management, urban planning and development, organizational development, finance and budget management, board and executive team relations
- Preferably with graduate studies; must have at least 10 years progressive experience in management and executive leadership in a similar non-profit organization
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills; computer literate; willing to travel.

AFFILIATE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

(Code: ADO)

to facilitate the organization and development of Habitat affiliates in NCR & Luzon towards being sustainable organizations implementing housing programs & projects grounded on Habitat's principles.

Qualifications:

- Graduate of social work, social development, or related fields, with at least 2 years supervisory experience in a non-profit organization
- At least 2 years experience in organizational development, project development, community organizing and network-building, preferably in the field of urban planning and development
- Good communication, negotiation and PR skills.

Qualified candidates may send no later than July 13 their application with an updated and complete resume to:

The Human Resources Manager
2102 Jollibee Plaza Bldg., Emerald Ave.
Ortigas Center, 1605 Pasig City
(Please indicate CODE)
E-mail: HR@habitat.org.ph



Jardine Caldbeck Philippines, Inc.

Jardine Caldbeck Philippines, Inc. a multinational company with offices in strategic cities across the Asia-Pacific region and engaged in the marketing and distribution of international premium wines and spirits brands, has opening for two positions:

BRAND EXECUTIVE - MARKETING

Responsible for developing and executing brand plans for our range of fine wines, the role also entails control and monitoring of our stock position and A&P expenditure, with regular reports to our overseas partners.

Minimum Qualifications:

- University degree holder (in business related subject)
- Strong numerical skills and competency in Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint and Word
- Strong English skills for report writing and presenting to senior managers from abroad. Not afraid of presenting to large audiences
- Presentable and energetic (aged 25 to 30 years)

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE - SALES

Responsible for the servicing of specific restaurants, hotel and bars. Building relationships and providing quality service to deliver sales targets for our brands.

Minimum Qualifications:

- University degree holder (in a Business related subject)
- 1 to 2 years work experience in sales or related industry
- Numerical competency and knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel
- Presentable and energetic (aged 22 to 28 years)

Interested parties should strictly follow the procedures below:

- Send resume by email or post, to be received by July 20, 2001 latest.
- State job applied for and indicate salary expectations clearly at the top of your resume
- Send to:

kay.alcaraz@jardinecaldbeck.com.ph or
4/F Jardine Caldbeck Philippines, Inc.
Jardine Davies Building, 222 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue
Makati City, Philippines

APTi-Philippines, Inc. is a Research and Development Company and an affiliate of IBM Japan, Ltd. and TOSHIBA TEC Corp.

We are looking for a Highly Motivated and Experienced

Corporate Planning Associate

Main Job: To participate in the overall corporate planning, budget control and financial evaluation of the company

Qualifications:

- Male or Female, preferably single, not more than 30 years of age
- C.P.A. with at least 4 years of work experience in Business Planning
- Graduate of a reputable school
- High potential for management position in the future
- Computer literate
- Good oral and written communication skills
- With good and pleasing personality
- Preferably residing near Alabang

Compensation and Benefits:

- Attractive remuneration package and career advancement
- Japanese Language Training
- Opportunities to travel overseas

We are now hiring for our Alabang Office. Applicants may send their application letter, resume, transcript of records and 2x2 ID picture and supporting credentials to P.O. Box 187, Ayala-Alabang Post Office, 1799, Muntinlupa City.

For any inquiries pls. call: 807-5521 (look for Ms. Rose Velarde)
You may also send your resume (TEXT format only) through e-mail at
jobs@aptiphils.com

Visit our Homepage URL: **http://www.aptiphils.com**



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ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

- Manila -

- ◆ College graduates, not over 28 years old
- ◆ At least one year field sales experience
- ◆ Good communication skills; able to provide prompt and accurate reports
- ◆ Hardworking, assertive individuals who can stand challenges

We offer above average compensation package, with varied earning opportunities throughout the company's wide array of products.

Qualified applicants are requested to mail their resume with photo and transcript of records to:

(Code : AE)

Recruitment and Training Group
1331 Angono St., J.P. Rizal Makati City
or e-mail us at **ubxhrd@i-next.net**

The Royal Norwegian Embassy, Commercial Section
(Norwegian Trade Council)

Is in need of

SECRETARY/ACCOUNTANT

Qualifications:

1. College graduate in the field of secretary & accounting
2. Computer literate (Word, excel, power point)
3. 2-3 years secretarial and/or accounting experience
4. Excellent in oral and written English communication skills
5. Able to work in a multi-cultural environment
6. Able to work alone or with minimum supervision
7. Flexible, demonstrates initiative and a good team player

Interested applicants should send their letter of application together with comprehensive resume to:

Royal Norwegian Embassy, Commercial Section
(Norwegian Trade Council)
P.O. Box 3344 MCPO, Makati
Or
E-mail: **cathy.bascos@pacific.net.ph**

Applications should be submitted on or before August 8, 2001

Applications sent by mail should be stamped not later than August 2 2001

Only short-listed candidates will be notified. Strictly, no telephone inquiries will be entertained.



Manufacturer of
Confectionery Products

Is in urgent need of a

INSTRUMENTATION TECHNICIAN

- Male, at least 25 years of age
- Must be a Trade school graduate in industrial electronics/two (2) years Eng'g. College
- At least 5 years experience in industrial instrumentation and process control
- Good in oral and written communication
- With good moral character

BUYER

- Male or Female, not more than 30 years old
- College graduate (Business/Technical degree)
- Computer literate
- Effective communicator (oral & written)
- Multilingual if possible
- Person of character and integrity
- Resourceful team player
- Adept in negotiation and conflict resolution is a plus factor

Interested applicants are requested to send their application letter, comprehensive resume, transcripts of records and 2x2 ID picture to:

Goya, Inc.

c/o Recruitment
No. 23 M. Tuzon St., Parang, Marikina City
E-mail: **jom1@inquirer.com.ph**
(Subject: Lo-Goya)

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A LARGE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OFFERING FINANCIAL SERVICES IS IN NEED OF EXPERIENCED KEY OFFICERS AGED 28 TO 38 YEARS OLD FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

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- 2) BACKROOM SUPPORT FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE UNIT
- 3) HEAD OF HUMAN RESOURCE AND ADMINISTRATION

PLEASE SEND YOUR RESUME AND PICTURE TO:

P.O. BOX NO. 2226
MAKATI CENTRAL POST OFFICE
1262 MAKATI CITY

www.jobmarketonline.com



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DPC immediately needs quality candidates for the following positions:

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE / ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE-TELEMARKETING

- Male/Female, 21-28 years old
- College graduate in top 25% of his/her graduating class,
- Personable, self-driven, dynamic and aggressive
- Persuasive in oral and written communication

DPC pays above average compensation. In addition to basic salary, DPC provides allowances, commissions, incentives, foreign trips and other fringe benefits no other company in the industry can match.

If you fit the above description, see us for an interview, July 9-13, 2001, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM with your application letter, resume, transcript of records and recent photograph.



DIRECTORIES PHILIPPINES CORPORATION
Corporate Affairs Department
16/F DPC Place,
2322 Chino Rocas Ave.,
(Formerly Pasong Tamo Ext.)
Makati City
www.directoriesphil.com
www.yellowpagesphil.com
dpc@info.com.ph



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- FEMALE WITH PLEASING PERSONALITY
- 20 to 24 YEARS OLD
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A Dynamic Company dedicated to excellence in the exploration, development and utilization of energy resources needs qualified applicants for the position

PLANNING ANALYST

JOB QUALIFICATION:

- Must be an Economics, Industrial Engineering or Management Engineering graduate of a reputable university
- Must have at least 2-3 years experience in preparing Corporate Operating Budget and conducting Investment Analysis
- With good writing, research, and analytical skills
- Proficient in MS Office especially MS Excel and PowerPoint
- Preferably Male
- 22-26 years old

The COMPANY offers competitive compensation and benefits package. Interested applicants may send his resume, 2x2 colored ID picture and transcript of records to the address below:

Bldg. 1, Energy Center, Merritt Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, M.M.

A Dynamic Company dedicated to excellence in the exploration, development and utilization of energy resources needs qualified applicants for the position

SYSTEMS ANALYST/ PROGRAMMER

JOB QUALIFICATION:

- Must be a Computer Science graduate of a reputable university
- Must have at least 1 year of relevant experience
- With working knowledge in SQL programming
- Preferably with experience in developing application systems using Oracle
- 21-26 years old

The COMPANY offers competitive compensation and benefits package. Interested applicants may send his resume, 2x2 colored ID picture and transcript of records to the address below:

THE ADMINISTRATION MANAGER
Bldg. 1, Energy Center, Merritt Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, M.M.

FORSSMAN PACIFIC CORP. Construction Management Spatial Co-ordination Preparation of Composite Drawings

These are the specific areas of expertise for Mechanical and Electrical Systems in the Construction Industry for which candidates are sought to fill a number of key Engineering, drafting, and administrative positions.

Mechanical/Electrical Co-ordination Engineers BSME or BSEE (M/ED)

At least 5 years experience in design/engineering with proven ability to carry out spatial co-ordination of all trades. Those inclined to work locally rather than overseas are preferred.

At least 5 years experience in construction of Mechanical, Hydraulic, Fire Protection, Electrical or Electronic Systems. You will have direct experience of work on site in a supervisory role working with trade and general contractors.

Minimum of 3 years combined experience with at least 2 years in a reputable engineering/consultancy firm and 1 year in field installation operations. Graduate of a reputable university with good scholastic record. Aggressive and willing to be trained to assume more senior positions.

At least 8 years experience. Knowledge in mechanical and electrical building services is preferred.

Document Controller (DC)

Previous experience in the set-up and management of a computer based document control system is a must. Exposure in an international engineering/construction firm implementing ISO 9000 is preferred.

2 to 3 years experience in secretarial/admin. functions. Well developed computer skills. Handwriting and willing to learn.

Accountant (AC)

A qualified accountant with over 6 years of experience, you will have worked in an international environment and be familiar with multi-currency accounting and all relevant tax laws/regulations.

2 to 3 years in this position. Current working knowledge of computer based accounting and all Philippine government taxation and legal requirements.

2 to 3 years experience in a secretarial position. Well developed computer skills. Handwriting and willing to learn.

Send or bring Resumé for:

2/F Prince Building,
117 Rada Street, Legaspi Village,
Makati City, Metro Manila.
Fax No. 813-9075
E-mail: forspac@info.com.ph

Has vacancy for:
1 ACCOUNT SALES EXECUTIVE

- 4 year college degree graduate, preferably major in Marketing Management or Computer Science
- At least 3 years sales related experience with established company
- Preferably from the travel or IT industry
- Must possess high degree of computer literacy and aptitude for creative usage of PC applications
- Fluent in oral and written English and Filipino languages
- Must possess customer service ability and account management aptitude
- Must be able to work with minimal supervision

Resumé, copy of transcript of records and 1 passport size picture must be sent to the:
Human Resources Manager
Galileo Asia Ltd. (Philippines)
W/F Pacific Star Bldg. Makati Ave., Makati City
All applications must be received not later than 12 July 2001

WANTED IMMEDIATELY
SALES REPRESENTATIVES

- Male/Female, preferably single, not more than 30 years old with or without experience (but preferably at least 2 years experience in Supermarket)
- Should be a resident of Rizal Area, Cainta, Taytay, Marikina, Antipolo, and Pasig

FIRST CHOICE MARKETING INC.
Bldg. 25 SEB Commercial Center
Ortigas Avenue Extension
Taytay Rizal, Tel. No. 6607004 / 6608175
LOOK FOR: NOPS GALANG
(Bring Bio-data w/ 2x2 picture)

IMMEDIATE HIRING

in PSBank Tower

INITIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- **COLLEGE GRADUATE** of at least 4-year course from reputable schools and universities
- Energetic men and women of at least 20-38 years of age (cheerful, aggressive and independent minded)
- Fluent in both oral and written English & Filipino languages
- Possesses a mature disposition and able to work with minimum supervision
- Not presently employed or enrolled
- Those who are ready to undergo comprehensive company training and can work at once

WE OFFER:

- **STARTING PAY OF P19,000.00**
- Local and foreign trips at company's expense
- A chance to join the ranks of highly paid managers
- Car plan and other fringe benefits

See us for interview on July 9, 10, 11 and 12, 2001 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please come in proper business attire with two (2) 2x2 size pictures, resumé/biodata and the clipping of this ad.

AT
8th Floor Suite 806 PSBank Tower, Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
(In front of Makati Medical Center)

URGENTLY NEEDED

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

QUALIFICATIONS:

Admin. Staff (at least 40 years of age)
Computer Science Graduate (no age limit)

Female
Single

Proficient both in oral and written communication
With pleasing personality and Good Moral Character
Preferably resident of Manila

Successful candidate must be willing to relocate in Taguig, Manila

Please contact: Nhelz B. Esequie
ACG JOSE CONSULTANTS CO.
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Rosario, Cavite
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Tel. No. (046) 437-0797
(046) 437-0298
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A humanitarian NGO is seeking for its head office in Makati:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Main tasks:

Assists the Administrator in financial management, bookkeeping, payments and financial reporting to institutional donors.

Profile:

- Preferably accounting graduate;
- Proficient in excel;
- With at least 2 years experience in a related field, preferably acquired in NGOs;
- Ability to work under pressure, in a team and independently;
- Must be honest and hardworking

Applicants should forward their CVs with photo, cover letter and references to fax #896-3527 or P.O. Box #2246 (Makati Central Post Office) on or before July 16. Work to start August 1, 2001. Only shortlisted applicants will be notified.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING TELEPHONE OPERATOR (Part-time)

- Female, 18-25 years old
- College level
- Can speak English
- With or without experience

SERVICE CHAIR

- Male/Female, 18-25 years old
- With experience
- College level

Please send your application with contact numbers indicated, present address and a recent 2x2 photo through mail or personal delivery to:

ALBERGUS
Personnel Department
c/o Ms. May Palma

From Mondays to Saturdays - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
16-A Capitol Hill Road, Old Balara, Diliman, Quezon City
(Only qualified applicants will be scheduled for an interview)

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MAGAZINE

July 8, 2001

Volume 14 No. 18

FOR

RANDY DAVID AND KATRINA LEGARDA

For the Record

Features

Celebrities

Klaudia Koronel's Life Show by Ina Aleco R. Silverio
There's more to this sexy star's story than a controversial movie

3

Twists of Fate

In the Name of the Father by Rodolfo A. G. Silvestre Jr.

Following the example of his father, Dennis Socrates fully intends to prove that he is the right man for Puerto Princesa

6

Cover Story

Asking the Right Questions by Cora Ullamas

Randy David and Katrina Legarda hold court in a TV talk show that respects its audience

8

Stylewatch

In Good Company by Joy Rojas

A group of stylish friends pool their artistic passions in a shop that's quirky and accessible

10

Netizens

Web Woman by Ruel S. De Vera

Filipinas now have a site to feel at home in, thanks to Therese Ng and Femalenetwork.com

14

KUDOS TO JIM

Congratulations, Jim! It is a surprise to know that a father has similar feelings to a mother like me! I hope that you continue spreading fatherhood lessons to our *kababayan*. You are a good writer. I did not know that! Just like your songs, your writing comes from the heart. May we have more fathers like you!

AIDA

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ASK ANOTHER FATHER

I read your article about being a father. First of all Happy Father's Day! I'd like to comment on your piece about being unquestioning Catholics. I agree that the Church has been wrong in the past and can always be wrong again on certain issues. But I'd like to suggest that when you find yourself stumped by certain questions, ask a learned priest about it because that is what they do; they're supposed to know what they preach. It's better than just trying to answer everything yourself. Of course I don't know if you actually do that but I got that impression from your article, which was very good.

LORIE

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"TWISTED CONCEPT"

Ely Buendia as a "cool daddy" on the cover of Sunday Inquirer Magazine's June 10 issue? Apparently, you have a twisted concept of a cool daddy in your mind — someone who has an unquestionable penchant for drugs, alcohol, morally-corrupting musical compositions, and a sorry excuse for an existence. Why not put on your cover a father who works hard to send his kid to college instead? How about a single-parent dad who went through hell to raise his kid morally? Or what about soldiers or cops who died in duty to leave their kids a decent, hard-working, and loyal paternal image? Ely Buendia? Hah! I'm sorry but you editors blew it big time. Perhaps you just lost a subscriber. Perhaps.

MIGUEL ROSELL

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SALTY MEMORIES

I would like to thank Eric S. Caruncho for his article "Salt of the Earth" (SIM, 3 June 2001) on the group Asin. The group had been in the local music scene for more than 20 years. I would like to share my recollections on them. Salt of the Earth is a phrase in the Bible which refers to hardworking people. Asin debuted in 1978 with its hit song, "Masdan ang Kapaligiran."

They did several albums and broke up in the early '80s. They were reunited in 1983 and have recorded a total of eight albums.

Meanwhile, two members of Asin formed their own group, Lolita Carbon formed the now defunct group Neneng, with its famous song "Biyaheng Langit," while Pendong Aban and his wife Chat Coloma-Aban came up with Ang Grupong Pendong, which produced two albums.

Asin was a legend before; now it's history. I hope that someday they will no longer sing songs suffused with agony and anger.

EDNEL A. ALMORADIE

551 Rafael Palma St.
San Antonio, Cavite City

Regulars

Letters

2

Poetry Anthony L. Tan; Ernan Muñoz

5

The Artist Abroad Banished from the Garden by Luis H. Francia

12

The Word Little Stories of Faith on Cordillera Street by Fr. Ruben J. Villote

13

Noteworthy Eat Right!

15

Pinoy Nga! Day Care Center by Jess Abrera

15

This Week

16



Cover Story page 8

The Cover Image The TV talk is always smart between Randy David and Katrina Legarda of "Off the Record."

Photographed by Val Handuman

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Klaudia Koronel's **Life** Show

SHEDDING CLOTHES BEFORE THE CAMERA FOR A LIVING MAY BE HER DAY JOB, BUT THERE'S MORE TO KLAUDIA KORONEL THAN HER CUP D ASSETS. THE STAR OF NONE-TOO-SUBTLE MOVIES "HAWAKAN MO AKO," "KESONG PUTI," "PISIL," MASARAP HABANG MAINIT," "AKIN ANG MALIIT, SA IYO ANG MALAKI," AND "ANAKAN MO AKO," HAD HER FIRST REAL TASTE OF FAME—OR NOTORIETY, IF YOU WILL—AS THE GUTSY PROSTITUTE IN THE MOVIE, "LIVE SHOW."

Klaudia and her siblings are no strangers to hunger. Indoor plumbing was a luxury and they had to walk some distance, barefoot, to fetch water

Banned by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and declared as pornographic by Manila's guardians of morality, the movie however reaped critical acclaim and was named Best Picture by the prestigious Gawad Manunuri. Klaudia also received accolades at the 2000 Berlin Filmfest for her portrayal of the foul-mouthed prostitute which, she says, provided some comic relief. She also observes that European audiences are much more understanding of films like "Live Show."

"In the Philippines, a lot more people are conservative and close-minded," she says. Foreign reviewers, Klaudia adds, were shocked to see the slum areas and the patchwork houses of rotting wood and rusted metal shown in the film. "They think it's part of the set. They don't realize how many poor people there are here."

Not surprisingly, the actress cites "Live Show" and going to the Berlin Film Festival last year as among her most cherished experiences. "The movie was well-made and I can relate to the story. *Mabigat ang mensahe, nakatotohanan* (the message was deep, but also realistic)," she says.

Klaudia also has good words for "Live Show" director and screenplay writer Joey Reyes. "He's a professional. *Hindi kami nabastos*," she says. In the scenes where Klaudia had to make love in front of a paying audience, the crew members portrayed the ogling customers. As soon as Reyes shouted "Cut!", the actors were immediately covered with big towels. "All the scenes were necessary to the movie. We were not exploited," she insists.

The Concerned Artists of the Philippines, which threw its support behind the movie when it was banned, describes "Live Show" as a social realist film that exposes and indicts the kind of society that the Filipino poor are subjected to. It's a life that Klaudia Koronel is familiar with.

Sex goddess to moviegoers, Klaudia off-cam and without makeup looks like a younger Julianne Moore with freckles all over her nose. The eldest daughter of a carpenter and a full-time housewife, she started life as Milfe Dacula, her name the odd combination of Mildred and Fe, the names of her fathers' two ex-girlfriends. "*Matindi raw yung away bago punayag si Nanay sa pangalan ko, pero bumigay din* (Mom fought hard against the name but eventually had to give in)," she says.

From Zamboanga where Klaudia spent her first five years, the family moved to Iloilo where they lived like most rural folks—elated by simple pleasures but hounded by unending economic difficulties.

Klaudia and her siblings are no strangers to hunger, sometimes foregoing food during schooldays. Indoor plumbing was a luxury they didn't have. They had to walk quite a distance to get water. "*Yapak kaming maglakad noon para 'wag agad mapupod ang swelas ng sinelas. Ang sapatos, panlabas lang* (We used to walk barefoot to save the soles of our slippers. Shoes were reserved for going out)."

After a decade, her parents decided to try their luck in Manila. Klaudia was then 15. "*Nung paalis na kami, medyo nagyabang kami sa mga kapitbahay. Papunta kaming Maynila - lugar ng mayayaman*. (We bragged to our neighbors about going to Manila, where rich people live.) Having a television then, even a black and white set, was a sign of wealth," she remembers.

If life in the province was difficult, Manila was a nightmare. The Daculass settled into an urban poor

Val Handuman



Klaudia (left)
with "Live
Show" co-
stars Hazel
Espinoza and
Ana Capri



community called Sinag-tala in Project 8. "Yung mga tinirhan namin noon, masikip at talagang maliit. Pag umuulan, umuuga ang bubong. Pag may bagyo, lumilipad ang yero, (we lived in tiny shacks whose roofs shook and were blown off during typhoons)" she says. She describes how they used wood shavings for fuel to cook meals and how plastic sacks were converted into curtains. There was no electricity and they had to make do with improvised gas lamps.

Living in an urban poor community also meant having to ward off demolition teams. At one point, Klaudia had to link arms with her neighbors to physically defend their homes against the armed goons, police, and wrecking crew.

Such experiences pushed Klaudia to apply as entertainer in Japan where she stayed for nine months. Like most overseas Filipino workers, her savings went into building a house. "Yun ang unang-unang pinaglaanan ko ng kita - mapayos yung bahay namin. Gawing semento man lang, (That was my first priority, to have our house repaired and to make it concrete)" she says.

After Japan, Klaudia went on to work as guest relations officer at Pegasus, a members-only men's club in Quezon City. Five months into the job and she was discovered and given a movie contract by Seiko Films, her first studio.

Klaudia is neither ashamed nor defensive about her previous employment. "Trabaho yun. Kailangan ko ng pera para sa pamilya ko, (it's just work and I need the money for my family)," she explains. She utters the word 'trabaho' with unconscious emphasis, with a determined look coming over her face even as she shrugs her shoulders.

Her relatives would sometimes chide her for being open and honest about her past. "Yun ang nakaraan ko, 'yun lang ang kaya kong ikwento, (It's my past; what else can I talk about?)" she says simply. But she's not trying to elicit pity or sympathy, she says. "Hindi lang ako nagkukunwari. Ni hindi ako marunong umarteng mayaman, bakit ko pipilitin? (I'm not pretending; I can't act rich so why try at all?)"

The star of the weekly sitcom "Kiss Mina" instead concentrates on her career, and is in the midst of shooting "Mano-Mano 2" with action star Ronnie Ricketts. After work, she goes straight home to her apartment in Mandaluyong to rest, says Klaudia. "I don't like going out," she says. Her only real hobby is scuba-diving, and she wishes she had more opportunities to dive but it's too expensive, she adds. Still, her eyes light up as she recalls her dives. "I'm happy underwater. Tahimik sa ilalim, pero buhay na buhay (it's quiet down there but so alive)." She has so far gone to Anilao, Batangas, and will soon get her scuba diving certificate.

As a self-imposed rule, however, she devotes her free time to her family. In her apartment is a cardboard box full of pictures showing Klaudia with her mother and siblings - at Enchanted Kingdom, at some mall, in a fast-food center. By nature, Klaudia is somewhat a loner and admits to not having friends in

show business, except maybe for Ara Mina whom she finds sincere.

"Maraming hindi totoong tao, tapos marami rin ang nananaksak sa likod, (A lot of showbiz folk aren't real and some are backstabbers)" she shrugs. She makes better friends with the crew of her films, the make-up men and women, the caterers, the people behind the scenes.

It's the height of irony that Klaudia's films are far from being family-oriented, but because of them, she has been able to provide for her family. Five years after her parents separated, Klaudia, now 25, has been her family's sole breadwinner. She built a house for her mother and siblings in Commonwealth. She is also in charge of her younger

siblings' education. The second eldest, Roberto, goes to Philippine Maritime Institute. The others, Giovanni, Rinalyn, Irish and the youngest at first grade Christian, all go to New Era College in Commonwealth, Quezon City. Every school opening, Klaudia herself makes the trip to National Bookstore and picks out the younger ones' notebooks and bags.

Though far from being a skinflint, Klaudia draws the line at luxuries. "Pag kailangan at kayang bilhin, bibilhin. Pero kung luho lang, hindi ko pinapayagan, (necessities are fine, but wants are something else)" she says. Her siblings say that she's a disciplinarian. "She gets upset when her siblings get into the slightest trouble," her mother Teresita says. Klaudia is now the head of the family, says Aling Tess somewhat sadly. A victim of marital abuse, only a strong religious faith sustains Aling Tess. That, and her eldest daughter's firm assurance that their family will be alright.

At the start of Klaudia's career, Aling Tess had qualms about her daughter's chosen profession. "But we talked about it and I understand that what's she's doing is for us," she explains. She has also seen Klaudia shoot scenes where she's about to lose her clothes, or has already shed them. "Medyo nakakailang kasi may ibang tao, pero hindi naman nakakabigla. (It's uncomfortable being there with other people watching, but no longer surprising)"

What Aling Tess doesn't understand and finds difficult to accept, however, are judgmental remarks directed against her daughter. Working as a beautician in a posh salon in Sunnyville subdivision in Quezon City, she has heard well-off customers talk insultingly of Klaudia and other so-called movie sirens, especially at the height of the "Live Show" controversy.

"They don't know that I'm Klaudia's mother. They go on and on about their cruel remarks and I just keep quiet. I can't ask them why they're talking that way when they don't even know my daughter." Aling Tess says she frequently prays for Klaudia, whom she calls "mabuting anak, mabait at maalalahanin (a good daughter, kind and very thoughtful)." I always pray that she'd be happy, she adds.

This school year, Klaudia has returned to school at the New Era College to finish a degree in Computer Science. Her sitcom perches high on the ratings chart, and she has movies lined up, not all of them demanding that she takes off her clothes. All her siblings are doing well in school, and most importantly, her four-year relationship with doctor-in-training Christopher Panganiban (whom she describes as "quiet and kind") is going strong.

Aling Tess just might get her wish.



With her seven-month-old niece Cheska

Crossing the River

Came upon the river shrouded in mists.
Too early for bird call, or wing beat,
Too early even for wind.
A giant conch shell on a beaded string
Hung on the branch of a leafless tree.
It belonged to the boatman of the river.
With little energy I blew it long and thin,
Remembering what I had been taught,
Cupping it between my delicate hands.
On the edge of that feeble call
An apparition darkened the thick mists.
Slowly the bow emerged in the hush of dawn.
Beckoned me to his boat. Didn't tell him
Where to and he didn't ask, as if
My destination were already foreknown.
He didn't paddle. He hesitated.
He waited as if he had forgotten something.
Looked me straight in the eye.
When I didn't respond immediately.
He opened one bony hand,
The white palm trembling with greed.
The other hand gripped the head of a long pole.
Then I remembered what I had been taught:
I dropped a silver coin into his open palm.
He gripped it, dropped it into a bulging purse
That was tightly sewn to his leather belt.
The drop of silver on silver
Was the only sound in the soundless mists.
Only then did a fugitive grin light up his face.
Only then did he strike
The murky water with the pole.
There was no one to say goodbye to.
No friends. No kinsmen. No lovers.
The gurgle in the wake took the place of words.
The boat moved toward the other bank, where
He had unloaded his boat of so many strangers.

Anthony L. Tan

Pangako
kay S.

Nililimliman ng gabi
ang nahihimbing na lupa
at ika'y nagmamalay-diwa,
sa isipan namumuo ang ideya
tulad ng bilog na bilog
na buwan. Pinagmamasdan mo
ang mundo sa kuwadro
ng bintana. Busog
ang iyong pagtanaw.

Panahon ngayon ng pamumunga.
Kung kailan napapayuko
ang puno sa bigat ng alay,
nagnanaknak ang dagta sa kung-
saang pinaghugutang tangkay,
malinaw sa naggagatas na liwanag.

Ang langit, nag-uumpaw sa tala,
samantalang bukas-loob
mong minamatyagan
ang tibok ng iyong matris,
umaalingawngaw sa paligid.

Sa sandaling iyon, gumuhit
ang kapalaran. Nababatid mo
ang tamis na nagmumula sa asim at alat.
Walang dapat alalahanin pa.
Ang lahat sumasang-ayon.

Ernan Muñoz

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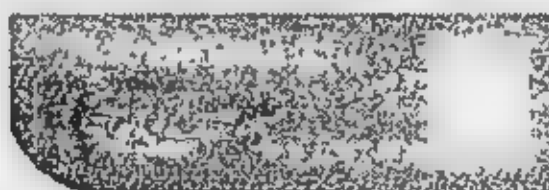
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In the Name of the Father

LAST YEAR, SALVADOR SOCRATES, PALAWAN GOVERNOR FOR ALMOST 30 YEARS, VANISHED. A YEAR AGO, THE AIRPLANE THAT WAS TAKING HIM AND HIS COMPANIONS TO PUERTO PRINCESA CITY BACK FROM THE SOUTHERN ISLAND MUNICIPALITY OF CAGAYANCILLO CRASHED INTO THE SULU SEA. THE PLANE'S WRECKAGE HAS NEVER BEEN RECOVERED. SOCRATES IS STILL MISSING.

After winning by a landslide, the new mayor of Puerto Princesa looks back and forward

One year after the crash, the governor's only son, Victorino Dennis M. Socrates, takes his oath of office as Mayor of Puerto Princesa City.

It should not be surprising if the whole country gets interested when Dennis places his hand on the Bible and is sworn into office. After all, the elder Socrates was a national figure himself, having been Marcos' Undersecretary in the then Ministry of Local Government up to the first EDSA uprising. To politicians and scholars, Salvador was a wonder of a politician who stood at the helm of the province from 1967 to 1986, and reclaimed his post in 1992. And then, there was the crash.

Of as much interest to many is the fact that Dennis is taking over from Edward S. Hagedorn, the mayor from 1992 to 2001. Hagedorn was at the city's helm when Puerto Princesa received awards for governance especially in environmental preservation, tourism, and health delivery, among others. Add to that all the hoopla surrounding the mayor whose life as a local bad boy-turned-do-gooder has been portrayed twice in the movies. As Hagedorn himself admits, it

was the old man Socrates who prevailed upon him to run for mayor for the first time. Over time, however, they have had to part ways, and reconcile, and then part again, and so on. In 1998, Dennis tried to win the post from Hagedorn, but lost.

This last election was different, with Dennis winning by a landslide. With his victory comes the burden of his being his father's son and Hagedorn's successor.

But first things first. Just who exactly is Dennis Socrates? In glasses and barong, he strikes one as being scholarly and serious. He went to Ateneo for high school and his degree in management. Then, it was off to UP Diliman for law studies. He later taught law at the Lyceum of the Philippines, and settled in Puerto Princesa where he became professor and college secretary at the College of Law of the Palawan State University. For five years, he was active as supervising lawyer at the Office of Legal Aid in the same university. He has also been at the forefront of environmental legal action, representing various NGOs protecting the seas, air and mountains of the province known as the country's last frontier.

On other days, Dennis is usually dressed in a tucked-in polo shirt, with either boat or canvas shoes to match. That's the clean looking guy educated by the Jesuits, who goes to Mass and prays the rosary every day. That's also the active leader of the Couples for Christ, along with his wife, the former Rowena Pangalagan, also a lawyer, and schoolmate from UP.

Dennis remembers his father as "demonstratively caring but not suffocating, and that's because he placed great value on freedom and individual responsibility for one's decision." "From him, I learned the need to be people-oriented," he continues. "My father also believed in being tough, not in the sense of being macho or *barako*, but you had to be strong internally to be able to accept the blows that come with the job."

They share a lot of similarities as well. "We enjoyed the same books, smoked the same cigarettes, drank the same liquor, watched the same movies," claims Dennis.

"I consider myself fortunate to have been born and raised in a Catholic home," says Dennis, whose mother, Elsa San Juan Macalinao, died of cancer when he was six. Two years after, Governor Socrates married the former Dr. Natividad Quicho, who has since stood as mother to Dennis and his sister Nancy.

For his part, as father to five children, Dennis says "I would adopt the same attitude as my father had with me. *Bahala sila*." In fact, he would ideally want them to follow an altogether different path, away from politics. "*Kung ako ang masusunod*, it would not be politics. I would much prefer them to be bishops, cardinals and popes."

Not surprisingly, Dennis traces his involvement in politics "not to any romantic or sentimental reason, just so I would be taking after

Dennis follows resolutely his father's example





All it takes is one crazy or violent person to destroy peace. We should then be prepared to protect and defend it."

Dennis enumerates three priorities: job generation, food security and the improvement of the delivery of basic services, especially health services. He is focused squarely on Puerto Princesa and takes his new role as mayor seriously.

As for following directly in his father's footsteps and run for governor in the future, Dennis is firm in his decision. "No, I don't want to think about it," says Dennis. "If you're honest with yourself, you should be aware that you are assuming a tremendous responsibility, whether you are a mayor or a governor, for the entire community.

"My responsibility now is that of a mayor. And I know I will be able to do what I am supposed to do because God is with me."



The Socrates family before the crash:
(top, left to right) Dr. Natividad
Socrates and Salvador Socrates;
(second row) Rowena and Dennis
Socrates with their children

my father. To me, joining politics may be likened to discerning one's vocation. It is a result of reflection on what God wants me to do. It's not a purely personal choice or desire that should motivate a politician. You should look at what God wants for you."

He is quite at home in his chosen field. Dennis says, "I now feel very comfortable, especially since we can all contribute toward reshaping and defining politics, which is the enjoyable part about it."

His personal philosophy on politics expectedly goes beyond the personal. "Politics is really an apostolate, because you are talking about the common good. For an ordinary person like me, the primary concern would be the family or one's profession. But in politics, one is making a quantum leap, getting into a different dimension. This is a tremendous responsibility not only for oneself but for the entire community."

He knows how challenging a public post can be, especially that of Puerto Princesa mayor. He concedes, "But surely, Hagedorn is a hard act to follow, that's why I don't intend to run after these awards. What is important is the performance."

He agrees that "cleaning and greening is good. It is a national program, and we will continue with the program but it should not be the primary preoccupation of the city government. It is definitely easy to attain fame through this program, but I hope to be more sincere in serving our constituents."

He points out too that "it is easy to be talking about protecting the environment and conserving our natural resources, but we must not lose sight of the center, which is man. Man is the agent, the subject and the goal of all development. We must not put the environment above the welfare of the people."

Dennis sees that businessmen will have an easy time investing under his leadership. "Right now, I don't have a friend or relative or anyone close to me with a big business interest. I cannot think of any businessman who will have an undue advantage simply because he or she is close to me. The business climate under our watch will definitely be fair."

As for tourism, Dennis looks at the Dos Palmas kidnapping "as a wake-up call for us to be more vigilant, for us not to take anything for granted, especially peace.

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*A sober discussion
that creates the
atmosphere for calm,
critical thinking
among the guests or
the set could
encourage the viewers
at home to restrain
heated passion and
instead look for
workable solutions*

It's probably the only program that engaged Ronnie Puno and Dodie Limcaco in a civil, if intense, discussion on the same set during the hottest point of the elections. Both guests reportedly raised their eyebrows at each other, but no name-calling and verbal brawls erupted. Political and social icons who wouldn't be caught dead in an interview have either hinted at or spoken openly of their willingness to make an appearance. Some guests even manage to volunteer or blurt out insider tidbits. During the premiere episode, Very Special Guest President Gloria M. Arroyo herself gave out a lot of "off-the-record" info. The OTR production team, which edits immediately after the Sunday afternoon taping, ended up bleeping some of her words to safeguard national security interests.

To the hosts, it's just plain responsibility. "The least that you can do for your guests is protect them and not embarrass them," says one host, renowned educator/broadcast commentator Randy David. "You have to appeal to their intellectual side even if you disagree with their politics. The atmosphere of the show discourages shouting."

But what if some of these guests appear to be prevaricating, hiding something, or even outright lying? "There's a right way of asking questions," points out Atty. Katrina Legarda, David's co-host. "Instead of getting upset, they explain and go into the details." Some guests did try to beat around the bush, or hemmed and hawed about certain inconsistencies concerning past statements and present arguments. David and Legarda kept poking and prying, but with unswerving politeness and occasional sharpness. David even asked one guest candidly about his "sinister" reputation—but in such a gentlemanly way that the guest couldn't take offense.

There's another reason for all this civility, besides good manners: the public's education. When debates become nasty, the focus shifts to the personal instead of the discussion points. The result is "more heat than illumination," says David. When the "intellectual basketball" kind of talk show became more popular in the early '90s, he quit his multi-awarded "Public Forum." "It was the era of the sabong of the two panigs wherein one outshouts the other. I don't want to denigrate the ones who do it because it's one way of engaging the audience, and some are good at it. But it can be very tiring. You can't get any real arguments in such a format."

Judging from the high ratings, OTR's audiences do clearly understand the arguments. What makes David and Legarda happier is that even the *masa* are watching the program, which many initially thought would appeal only to the upper class. Yet, "drivers, valets, waiters, market vendors and security guards" are approaching the hosts on the streets to tell them: "*Naiintindihan na namin ang nangyayari sa bansa.*" (We understand what's happening to the country.)

According to Legarda, it's a strong sign that the Pinoy viewership is aching to get involved. "They're desperate for information that is credible. They watch and read the news the whole week, but they want to know why, and nobody is telling them." At the same time, "they just want to be told the facts, and they want to come to their own conclusions."

This known advocate for the rights of women and children is fast establishing herself as an honest,



articulate and intelligent commentator. Co-hosting stints on the ABS-CBN News Channel's coverage of the Estrada impeachment trial and EDSA 2 led to her own weekly program, "By Demand."

OTR demanded another kind of adjustment. Pinoy audiences now want the discussions in their own, comprehensible language. The British-educated Legarda, fondly teased as a "*cacique*" by David ("Spanish was my first language and I had to learn English in school"), bravely plowed ahead with her "execrable Tagalog."

David had hurdled the linguistic barrier a decade earlier, during the days of "Public Forum." His very first guest for that groundbreaking show was the Tagalog-speaking *Kumander* Dante. During the break, Dante asked David, who was hosting in impeccable English, "*Bakit ka nag-i-Ingles?*" Halfway through the program, David decided to shift into his very awkward Filipino. It was a stumbling start, but a start, nevertheless. The UP professor soon set himself to rediscover his mother tongue, reading *komiks* and the Bible in Tagalog. Soon after, David gained fame for his expertise and eloquence in the language,

and "Public Forum" became the first talk show to use Filipino as a medium of discourse on national TV.

Its counterparts followed suit, establishing a trend that endures up to the present. "It's part of the democratization process: bringing in the people who were not part of the current affairs," David expounds. "Allowing the people to speak in their own language is empowerment. You gag them if you force them to speak in a language they are not comfortable in."

"You have to remember," he adds, "The *masa* form 80 percent of this country. They elect the congress-

If we are to look closely, says David, the Philippines is a very young democracy, struggling to find its legs and stand. "A nation does not crop up overnight. Ours is a plural society, it is not homogenous religiously, racially or ethnically. A nation is something you create, like building institutions, families, electoral systems, governments. It's not something you just stumble upon."

"We just didn't 'stumble' on People Power," Legarda interjects. "Building a nation takes generations. *May pag-asa ang bayan*. We have a people who are beginning to wake up from their moribund state and realize that they have a say. The impeachment trial woke them up to realize that they can judge the man they elected to become president."

Perhaps that same realization can spur them to take a more direct, more responsible role in building a better world for himself and his children.

Legarda would put it to her viewers more directly: "If your son tells you that he's not interested in continuing his education and he wants

He said, she said:
Randy David and
Katrina Legarda
preside over TV's
smartest talk show

All talked out:
The hosts
relax during a
break from
shooting



men, senators, the president. By empowering them, you help ensure that such a huge constituency could not be used by demagogues."

Maybe that's another reason why David and Legarda take care not to fan the flames of tension in their program. A sober discussion that creates the atmosphere for calm, critical thinking among the guests on the set could encourage the viewers at home to restrain heated passions and instead look for workable solutions. "You hear news about people in barber shops killing each other over a politically heated argument," Legarda shakes her head.

Referring to the storming of Malacañang last May 1, she repeats the words of a film director-friend: "There is always something inside the *masa* which we must never rouse. That is the despair of poverty. You mustn't stoke it up. Because once that is stoked up, they will become a mob."

If there's passion that the hosts will want to rouse, it's the concern for nation building. Considering the crises that have plagued the country in recent years, and the endless diaspora of Pinoy to seek greener pastures overseas, both seem to be optimistic about the future. Neither looks like they're about to jump ship any time. Credit it to their ability to see the larger picture. Every issue in the show is analyzed within its societal, political, legal and cultural context; the strengths of David, a sociologist, and Legarda, a lawyer, easily come into play.

to be a garbage man, he'd better be the best damn garbage collector in town. That's how you contribute to the building of a nation."

David points out that in order for a nation to become strong, there are certain factors that its people must simply value. "Can we create enough wealth not just for us but for the next generation? We have to develop our productive capabilities, technology, education, etc. Can you share this wealth enough democratically so that people can feel a sense of participation? It's not just a small sector of the elite. You have to distribute it - otherwise you will have this Mendiola scene and Abu Sayyaf hostage-taking over and over again."

The answers are not quick in coming, and the road ahead looks long and hard. The hosts are the first to admit that their show - or any other show - cannot be expected to provide all the answers. As David says, "The most that you hope for is that the people who watch it can learn to ask more questions."

In Good Company

THEY SAY YOU MUST NEVER DO BUSINESS WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS, YET FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE EXACTLY WHO LEAH B. PUYAT, MICHELE SISON, ANTON BARRETTO, ERNIE SANTOS, LAURA VERALLO DE BERTOTTO AND JUAN PABLO BERTOTTO TURNED TO WHEN THEY LAUNCHED THE LUXURY ITEMS STORE AND LOUNGE CALLED AL ESTILO DE. YOU WOULD TOO IF YOU WERE IN THE BUSINESS OF STYLE, A FACTOR THAT EACH PARTNER WAS BORN WITH AND KNOWS PLENTY ABOUT.

Consider the group's glowing resumé. Michele and Laura, sought-after fashion designer and VMV general manager respectively, were working on a project together when they spotted the spacious second floor above Brothers Burger restaurant in posh Rockwell Center. Eager to set up an alternative, away-from-the-mall establishment, they contacted friends with a similar mindset: Anton, an interior expert who was busy with the VMV spa Original Skin; and Leah, who was raring to experience a different kind of freedom and cre-

ativity after years in the glossy fashion magazine trade. For their culinary concerns, Michele's chef-sister Melisa called Ernie, a doctor by profession with eclectic gourmet sensibilities. Laura's Argentinean husband Juampi completed the picture with his business and banking savvy.

"I must say, I was so surprised that we work so well together because I was expecting much more fighting," notes Juampi with a chuckle. Michele believes the partnership works "because we're not the kind of friends who see each other everyday" and Leah agrees with the observation. "It's familiarity without the contempt," declares the newspaper columnist and former Preview editor in chief. "We're friends but there's just not that much baggage or history. Yet we know each other well enough to trust each other."

Spanish for "In the style of..." the shop's open-ended name invites patrons to enter the place and "choose whatever fits your personal-

Stylin' at Al Estilo De:
(left to right) Michele
Sison, Juan Pablo
Bertotto, Leah Puyat
and Anton Barretto





ity," explains Anton. The must-have merchandise runs from zany to Zen: there are placemats made of moss, bone-carved baby shoes, Oriental pill boxes, candles of all shapes and colors by Anton, out-of-the-ordinary handbags from Michele, Laura's line of cosmetics, low-key furniture, and shelves of intriguing objets d'art sourced from the Philippines, Asia and Argentina. Clients are also just as crazy about the food, a hearty fusion of tastes and textures by chefs Malisa Sison and Bambi Sy-Gobio. Black Bean Chorizo, Unagi Angel Hair Pasta, and Tomato Pesto are among the venue's hands-down favorites.

The best deal, of course, is the events, which combine all of Al Estilo De's elements in one splashy occasion. A party to celebrate the shop's "Carnival" theme last summer saw an exhibit of works by Valeria Cavestary and other VMV artists, a menu of Chicken & Corn pasta and Tequila Lime Marinated Chicken sandwich, plus performances by a juggler and percussionist. And when a client asked them to help her host a soiree inspired by the HBO hit series "Sex and the City," the company responded by dolling up the place "as if Carrie was having a party at a Soho art gallery," says Leah. Kitschy Japanese lanterns and mirror balls swirled from the shop's ceiling, cocktails and pica-pica flowed, episodes of "Sex and the City" aired non-stop on a DVD player, and candles were given to guests who dressed like the show's *fashionista* foursome. Later, all the ladies went home with lipsticks from Laura's VMV collection. Leah's incredible eye for detail, a talent praised by her partners, enhances the ambiance of each event. "They're challenging but in a fun, fun way," she says.

"Challenging but fun" certainly describes the mood that presides over the partners' lengthy, lively meetings. Amazingly, despite all the opinions and voices flying across the room, the team is "so democratic. You have to be open to the whole concept that not everything you sell, you like," admits Anton. "So we accept, we see which items work, and we learn from there." And while most artists are fiercely protective about their craft, creative sorts like Anton and Michele actually welcome suggestions from colleagues. "Yeah, I always find that in terms of brainstorming, I'm at my best when I'm around people or when I'm talking with friends," she says. "I think that's one strength we have. Even if we work well on our own, we can also work well as a team."

And because they're not just amongst teammates but in the good company of family and friends, the partners allow each other to indulge in the perks of their exciting venture. "Well, there has been more than one instance when a bag doesn't make it to the store because Laura has picked it out," Juampi confesses with a smile. "And our house is a shrine of Anton's candles." Michele makes shirts for the guys, and everybody has good skin for a reason. "We're all VMV users!" announces Leah proudly.

Estilo's features (top to bottom): Pillboxes to please the eye, a bevy of bags, and a tandem of teapots

The Artist Abroad

by Luis H. Francia
photographs by Randy Hormillosa

Banished from the Garden

Parks act as a city's lungs, and a sign of at least some caring on the part of city officials. Right now, Manila is asthmatic, probably tubercular, and flirting with emphysema

I MAY LIVE ABROAD BUT, THOUGH YOU MAY TAKE ME AWAY FROM MANILA, YOU CANNOT TAKE MANILA AWAY FROM ME. THIS SEEMS TO BE HAPPENING, HOWEVER. EVERY TIME I VISIT, MORE OF THE CITY SEEMS TO HAVE DISAPPEARED, UNDER EVER-INCREASING AMOUNTS OF CONCRETE, STEEL AND ASPHALT. MORE MALLS, MORE BUILDINGS, MORE STREETS, MORE VEHICLES, MORE POLLUTION, MORE CONGESTION. THIS CITY OF MY BIRTH, WHERE I SHED MY INNOCENCE AND CAME TO EXPLORE THE TERRIFYING AND ALSO WONDERFUL REALM OF HUMAN THOUGHT AND EMOTION, HAS OVER THE YEARS ACQUIRED A WEARY, GRIM, DISPIRITED LOOK. BETWEEN THE BUILDUP AND THE RAVAGES MADE ON THE URBANE MANILEÑO'S SPIRIT, THERE IS CLEARLY A CORRELATION. SO AS A TRUE-BLUE MANILEÑO, I ASSERT MY BIRTHRIGHT TO DEPLORE THE MALLING (AND MAULING) OF THIS ONCE-NOBLE AND EVER LOYAL CITY. IT'S A SIMPLE TRUTH: MORE CONCRETE, LESS GREEN; LESS PUBLIC SPACES, MORE INCIVILITIES..

It is a tribute to the city's millions of dwellers, especially to its poor and working class (who make up the majority of the city) that they are able to bear the daily humiliations - stifling living quarters, scarce water, low to no wages, high crime rates, nightmarish traffic, and the indifference, even contempt, of public servants - with grace and a sense of humor. I am sure they must be having a good laugh, inflected with cynicism, at hearing the mayor of Manila accuse those critics of being anti-poor, who object to his designs on the Mehan Garden. Who is he kidding? Does he think its users - and those of Rizal Park, for instance - are made up mostly of the middle and upper classes, who have the means to get away from the hassles of the big city even if only on weekends? Can you imagine the perfumed dwellers of Makati's privileged residential enclaves spending a day at the park, any park, in the metropolitan area? So who is it who uses these spaces, if not the very people the mayor claims to be so concerned with? And now he wants to deprive them of an eight-hectare oasis, for a college and a bus-and-jeepney terminal.

Manila has too few public parks and other inhabitant-friendly spaces essential to the well-being of a city and all who live in it, regardless of class. As forests do for the planet, parks act as a city's lungs, and a sign of at least some caring on the part of city officials. Right now, Manila is asthmatic, probably tubercular, and flirting with emphysema. That Manila may lose the Mehan, established in 1857, means that the average Manileño is once again being given short shrift by an administration that supposedly has his or her best interests at heart. And the justification for Mehan's demise is pretty flimsy, for there

MTRCB chief Alejandro Roces passionately speaks out on the need to save Mehan Garden



Workers prepare the endangered Mehan Garden for the next day's Araw ng Maynila rites

are other sites where a college can be erected. Would the mayor argue that, given the need for public housing, we should now start erecting tenements at Rizal Park?

The sorry state of the city's environment - of which the proposed assault on Mehan is only one example - raises the question: What vision do city officials offer for a living, breathing, economically viable and green metropolis? What notion do they have of Manila as a city with more than 400 years of history, that a place like Mehan forms an irreplaceable part of the City Hall district that includes the main post office, the Metropolitan Theater, and the old Congress buildings - a district that abuts and complements Intramuros? If we are to go by the demolition of the lovely Art Deco Jai Alai building and the construction of restaurants within Intramuros, they have no sense at all of the past, and so what they propose is nonsense.

Taken together, Intramuros and City Hall form part of the core of Manila's past, an essential element of its character. The issue of preservation raises the larger question: Where is the national government in all this? The National Historical Commission? The Department of Tourism? Aren't these landmark areas part of the country's patrimony - and therefore beyond the purview of local officials? Gut them, sell them, and you exchange the nation's soul for a few pieces of silver.

Unfortunately, the mayor isn't alone in his shortsighted thinking. In the so-called development of Makati, Mandaluyong and Pasig, developers and the big landowning families have given no thought to parks and plazas, only to shopping centers, hotels and office buildings - a persuasive index to the dominance of real estate interests. This kind of "progress" the city needs like a hole in the head. I keep envisioning a scenario, when, confronted by its entombment, a frequent visitor to the metropolis in the not too-distant future might ask me, whatever happened to Manila? I fear having to reply, "Maynila? Wala na." Such will be a fitting epitaph for this citadel by the Pasig.



Little Stories of Faith on Cordillera Street

We at CMY have always ended up recklessly welcoming one stranger after another without knowing exactly where to get the bread. But we always get by

AT LEAST SIX READERS HAVE WRITTEN IN TO ASK HOW CENTER FOR MIGRANT YOUTH (CMY) IS DOING. A CERTAIN JEFFREY PERLAS WANTED TO KNOW IF CMY IS STILL AROUND. "YOU HAVEN'T REPORTED FOR QUITE A WHILE," HE REBUKED ME, GENTLY SOUNDING LIKE ONE WHO IS SINCERELY CONCERNED. THANK YOU, JEFFREY.

Of course, CMY is up and around indeed. It will be 19 years old in September, and 20 when I hit 70 in 2002. I feel like I'm thirtysomething, especially after that mean cataract "band-aid surgery" in May.

We have three significant additions to our migrant and street youth directory at present: Rey, Nognog and Aldrin.

Rey, 18, was sold by his mother at infancy to a squatter woman who had lost both legs in a train accident. Although Rey has bonded quite well with his foster mother, he said he still stowed away (*istokwa*) often to search for his lost mother on the streets of Divisoria. That's where Butch Nerja (a former CMY elder, now married and a certified "street educator") found Rey.

Nognog was an emaciated ebony street urchin selling throwaway vegetables and sniffing rugby in the vicinity of Tabora. One day, he fell asleep along the *riles*, and a speeding train caught his right arm. A foreign medical mission ministered to him, and it was Butch again who shepherded the young and depressed amputee to CMY.

Aldrin, when he was 7, fell over a school wall, and at 14 began to experience symptoms of a deteriorating spinal disease. He was operated on at the National Orthopedic Center where the doctors said he would be a "bed-level patient" all his life. He was sent to Bahay Mapagmahal, a home exclusively for handicapped children within the hospital compound. Aldrin was resigned to spend his high school and the rest of his adolescent life in that place due to his serious spinal condition.

One day, he found himself rising from his bed and walking on his own without support. "He was rising to life again!" the nurses exclaimed, and the doctors were amazed to find him spontaneously and progressively being healed. Sister Roos, who heads the Bahay Mapagmahal, had to cancel Aldrin's permanent residency status in that house for permanently disabled children.

We welcomed Aldrin to CMY, however, so he could continue his studies under the CMY Education Assistance Program. Aldrin is from Daet, Bicol. His father, a former tricycle driver, has been jobless after an almost fatal accident. We at CMY believe, however, that when God allowed Aldrin "to rise from his bed," nothing, neither poverty nor pain, could separate him again from his dream to move on and to find his place at the end of the road. "We'll accompany you there," I recklessly told Aldrin as I welcomed him to CMY—without knowing exactly where to get the funds. It was, for me, an absolute act of faith.

Rey, Nognog and Aldrin are now on their way to test that faith. Their stories are familiar "repeats" of the old stories for hundreds of migrant and street youths who had been abandoned, displaced and rejected in the city. We at CMY have always ended up recklessly welcoming one stranger after another "without knowing exactly where to get the bread."

"But we always get by," I always proclaim. "When our Father God moves, everybody and everything moves, believe me, and wondrous things begin to happen absolutely out of nothing!"

If you still find it difficult to believe the "stories of faith" of the likes of Rey, Nognog and Aldrin, meet the few others before them from the year 1982, and see in your mind's eye "the great things God has done for them through the years because He is mighty and holy is His name." (*Magnificat*, Lk 1:49)

Butch Nerja, street educator for Childhope Philippines

Anthony Quinagon, social worker and health activist

Bong Garces, New World Foundation seminar lecturer

Benjie Ortega, optometrist in Dammam

Ernie Felisilda, school teacher in Mindanao

Arturo Getigan, radiologist in Libya

George Acidre, computer analyst in Hong Kong

Tolits Legarde, Rolex watch specialist

Alain Daniel, Seiko repair expert and tutor

Liza M. Dominguez, occupational therapist, NOC

Julius Altenta, nurse

Joey Formaran (Blackjack), entertainment business

Lemuel, Sonny Boy and Wilson Gaviola, entertainment business

Tony Bithao, Gilbert Gabor, George Morales, Boy Jopia, Gerry Tondo, etc., seafarers

Joseph Delfin, security guard

Noli Ferrera, businessman

Redemptor Hamoy, OFW

Meldin Katipunan, department store utility man

Mateo Addangna, Evangelical Protestant pastor

Gwen Bardi, seminarian

Junie Fuentes, seminarian

Joseph Pidot, Franciscan monk

Joe Ladip, real estate sales agent, taxi operator

Cris Ortega, computer technician

Alvin Barrio, employee, Abiva Publishing

And many more, too many to count, but very consoling and affirming to remember the days when they were almost "buried and dead," and now they have "risen, grown up and are bearing fruit."

These are the never-ending little stories of faith on Cordillera Street.

All Sundays in July and August 2001 are Homecoming Sundays for former CMY residents—8:15 a.m. Eucharist followed by table agape fellowship. Bring something for the table (optional) and old CMY photos.

If bad weather does not mess up our Sunday on July 29, our Mass will be at Shepherd's Place (CMY House of Prayer and Rest) in Dasmarinas, Cavite (Atis Street, Greenfield Subdivision).



Web Woman

WHILE studying at the Ateneo, Marie Therese Kilayko Ng would lug her beloved Macintosh SE to school in a distinctive blue stroller, to the point that classmates referred to her as "the Yakult lady." She hardly ever considered herself an activist, though she admits she was always "kind of a feminist." After graduating in 1994, she taught at Assumption San Lorenzo and joined ABS-CBN's then-fledgling interactive media division. While taking her Masters in Publishing at New York University, Therese had coffee with Lisa Gokongwei, big boss of Summit Media, publisher of magazines such as Cosmopolitan Philippines and Preview. That Manhattan caffeine break eventually evolved into the idea of putting up a website for Filipino women. After helping put up Candymag.com, Therese came on board to become the navigator of Femalenetwork.com. First uploaded in April 2000, the site is a place on the Net where Filipinas can discuss what matters to them. Aside from being Femalenetwork.com's busy producer, Therese is also general manager of Summit Interactive, in charge of the online publishing business of Summit Media. It's a long way for this digital Yakult lady, but the brainy, hyperactive 28-year-old is now fully comfortable with her role. "I don't believe this!" Therese enthuses, "I finally love what I'm doing." SIM surfed Therese's brainwaves with this not-too-serious session of e-mail bonding:

SIM: What, in a zip, is Femalenetwork.com's mission?

Therese: FemaleNetwork.com aims to empower Filipinas by offering an online destination with all the information we need to improve our lives, where we can share our passions, hardships, issues and joys with people like us.

SIM: Why should the average Filipina web surfer log on to your site?

Therese: Because it's a place where Filipinas can bare all without fear. And they can do it in Taglish or even text spelling! People will listen. We (women and men) talk about falling in love, dark underarms, affairs with married men, being a working mom, favorite books and makeup and movies, dealing with abusive relationships, Amway, and the number of orgasms a woman can physiologically have.

SIM: How much time do you spend on the web everyday?

Therese: On weekdays, the only time I'm not online is when I'm asleep, bathing or eating. Oh, and when I'm in the car. SMS doesn't count as being online does it? It's really sickening, I know, and if every instance of checking mail were a sin, I would go straight to hell. On weekends I'm better, except when I get obsessed with the FemaleNetwork.com bulletin board, which is like every other week, and I can't stop reading and posting messages. I need to go out of town to force myself not to go online.

SIM: When do you usually go online?

Therese: As soon as I get to Summit at 9, and I log off when I leave work, usually at 7:30. I connect again at home at around 9:30 p.m. to around midnight, because I do Internet consulting work for Macmillan Online Publishing in New York and that's their daytime.

SIM: If you could come up with an e-mail addy that would properly describe you, what would it be?

Therese: `walang_maisip@uncreativemain.com`

SIM: What is your favorite digital gadget?

Therese: No, it's not a Palm! I don't own a

Palm, I'm proud to say. :-) I think it would be my CD player, for sentimental reasons.

SIM: What is your favorite analog or non-techie possession?

Therese: You know, I really like clocks for some reason. Clocks with hands, ha, and not wristwatches either. When I'm out shopping, I'll always stop by a display of clocks to check out what's there. Usually I'm disappointed, though. I don't like those ones with bright plastic frames. I have three clocks in my room which are about five minutes different from each other, which explains why I'm perpetually five minutes late.

SIM: Are you afraid of real mice?

Therese: No, they're cute. Here's something funny: When my mom was learning to use the computer, she was more afraid of the computer mouse than of real mice! She thought that if she pressed a button the wrong way, something would explode. But now she's a cybenmom and sends all our relatives e-cards.

SIM: What's the thing you love most about the Internet?

Therese: It allows me to stay in touch with everyone I know and love from all over the world. My high school class even has an e-group and we're just as *magulo* and *mababaw* as we were way back when. And it doesn't cost a thing, for which my *barat* self is deeply grateful.

SIM: Conversely, what do you hate most about it?

Therese: It's so immediate. I feel compelled to respond to everything right away. I can't say, "I'm not here." Even when I was on vacation, I checked work mail everyday. Yuck! But it's true.

SIM: To Counterstrike or not to Counterstrike?

Therese: Sim City na lang, puede?

SIM: Mac or PC?

Therese: The Mac was my first love (this was in 1990, the time of Windows 3.x)—the way it handled letter spacing, the WYSIWYG display, all those beautiful fonts, the mouse control, the drag-and-drop! My first Mac was an SE, and it had all of 40 MB of hard disk memory. I felt like I would never in my entire life use up 40 whole MB of memory. But as Macs got more and more high-tech, they also became increasingly unstable and kept on hanging and hanging. I was extremely dependent on Macintoshes because of my work as a magazine art director, so finally I was like, *aggh!* I can't take this anymore!



Roger Margallo

Eat Right!

In celebration of Nutrition Month, the National Nutrition Council shares these guidelines

Eat a variety of foods every day.

No single food provides all the nutrients the body needs. Choosing different kinds of foods from all food groups is the first step to obtain a well-balanced diet. This will help correct the common practice of confining food choice to a few kinds of food, resulting in an imbalanced diet.

Breastfeed infants exclusively from birth to 4-6 months, and then give appropriate foods while continuing breastfeeding.

This ensures a complete and safe food for the newborn and the growing infant besides imparting the other benefits of breastfeeding. It also advocates the giving of appropriate complementary food in addition to breast milk once the infant is ready for solid foods at about six months.

Maintain children's normal growth through proper diet and monitor their growth regularly.

Regular weighing monitors the growth of children, and is a simple way to assess their nutritional status.

Consume fish, lean meat, poultry or dried beans.

Including fish, lean meat, poultry or dried beans will provide good quality protein and dietary energy, as well as iron and zinc, key nutrients lacking in the diet of Filipinos as a whole.

Eat more vegetables, fruits and root crops.

Eating more vegetables, fruits and root crops will supply the much-needed vitamins, minerals and dietary fiber that are deficient in our diet. In addition, they provide defense against chronic degenerative diseases.

Eat foods cooked in edible/cooking oil in your daily meals.

Including foods cooked in edible oil will provide additional dietary energy as a partial remedy to the calorie deficiency of the average Filipino.

Consume milk, milk products and other calcium-rich foods, such as small fish and dark green, leafy vegetables every day.

Including milk and other calcium-rich foods in the diet will serve to supply not only calcium for healthy bones, but provide high quality protein and other nutrients for growth.

Use iodized salt, but avoid excessive intake of salty foods.

The use of iodized salt will prevent iodine deficiency, a major cause of mental retardation and physical underdevelopment in the country. The guideline also warns against excessive intake of salty foods to prevent hypertension, particularly among high-risk individuals.

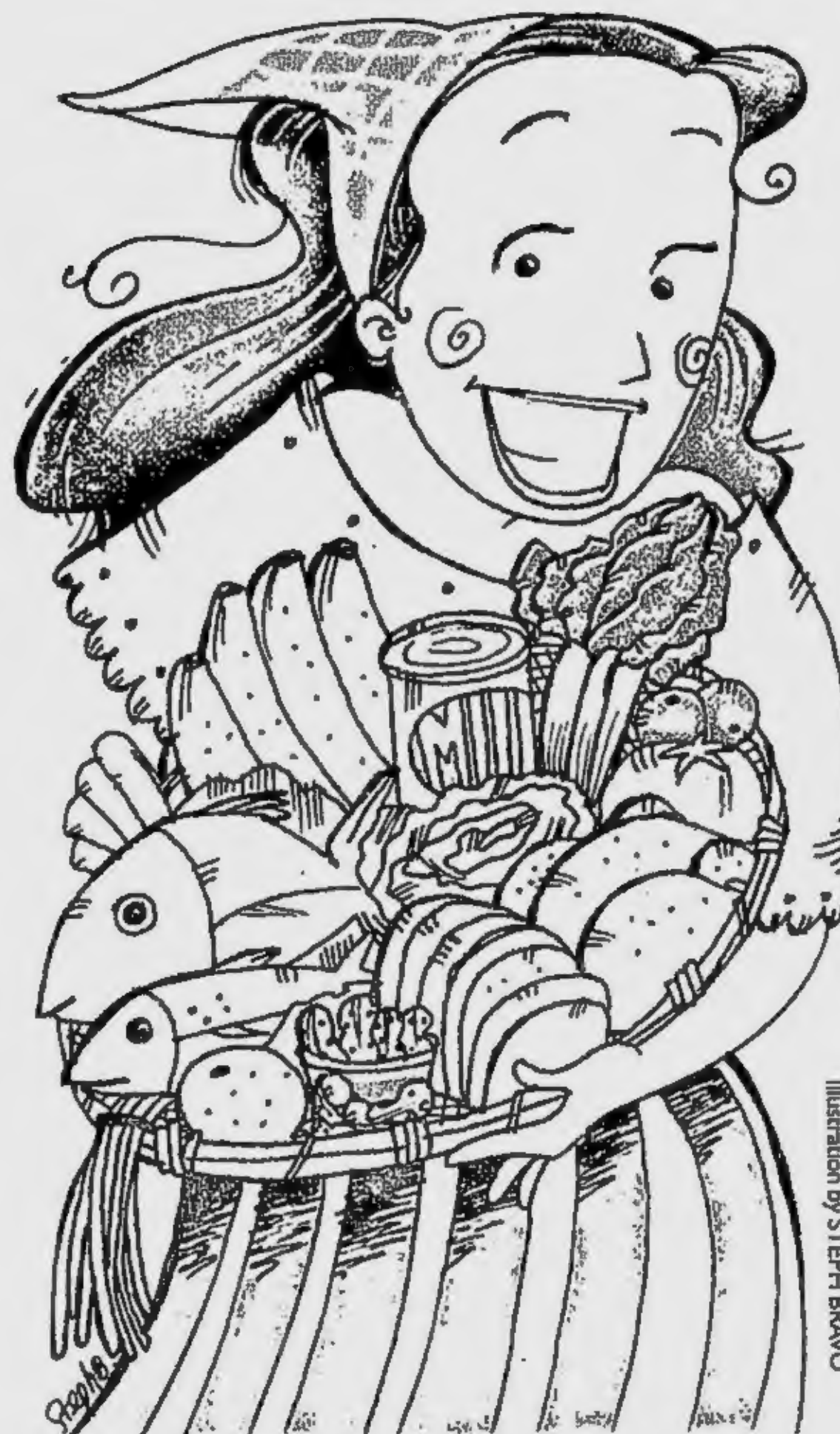


Illustration by STEPH BRAVO

Eat clean and safe foods.

Intended to prevent food-borne diseases.

For a healthy lifestyle and good nutrition, exercise regularly, do not smoke and avoid drinking alcoholic beverages.

Promote a healthy lifestyle through regular exercise, abstinence from smoking, and avoiding alcohol consumption. If alcohol is consumed, it must be done in moderation.

Pinoy NGA!

by Jess Abrera

Day Care Center



NETIZENS...from page 14

You're driving me up the wall and it's just not worth it to have a continuing relationship with you! Just like finally breaking up with that charming but erratic boyfriend after the millionth time he shows up five hours late. I'm married to my PC now. And although the Mac is back, promising that it has changed its awful ways and looking more attractive than ever, sorry - it's too late and I've made my choice.

SIM: How much has the Internet and digital technology personally changed your life?

Therese: It has afforded me work that I truly enjoy and find very rewarding.

SIM: Is the Filipina truly ready to be wired?

Therese: Filipinas have been wired for ages. We've had to deal with bras and braces since we were 12.

Cinema

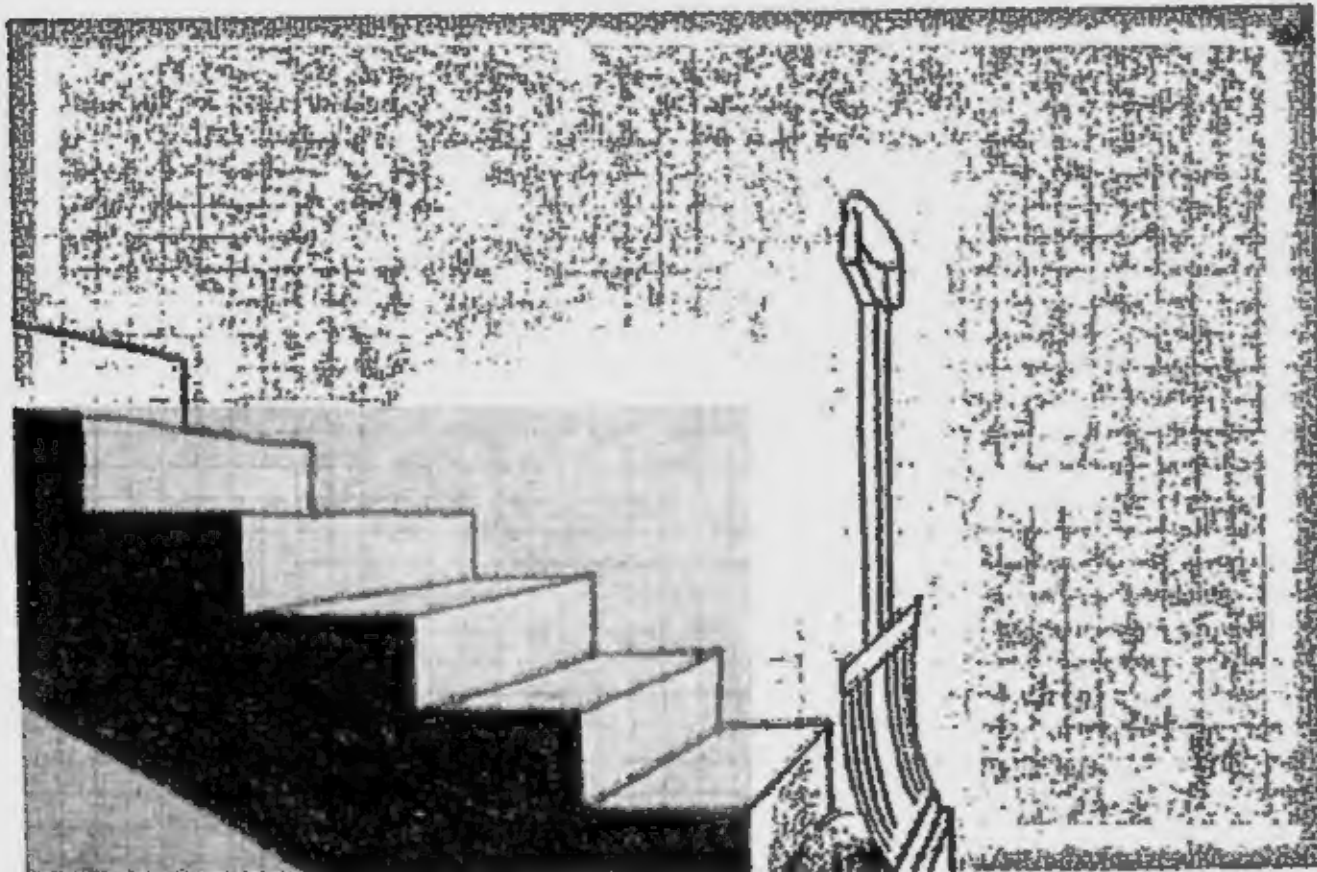
Les Enfants du Paradis (1945), a classic love story on how four men loved the same woman in four different ways (French version with English subtitles), July 11, 8 p.m. at Suez-Ondeo Auditorium, Alliance Francaise de Manille, 209 Nicanor Garcia St., Bel-Air II, Makati City. For details, call 895-7441.

Barrio (1998), a coming of age story of three boys who discover the difficulties of growing up, July 12, 7:30 p.m., Salon de Actos, Instituto Cervantes, 2515 Leon Guinto, Malate, Manila. For inquiries, call 526-1482 to 85.

Art

Pangalawang Hakbang, an exhibit by the new art group Ikalawang Palapag at the 2/F, World Center, Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City until July 29. The group exhibit features works in different media by Jasper de Leon, Raul Delfin III, Norman Dreco, Eric Quay Evano, Juan Sajid Imao, Dayong Mendoza, John Paul Olivares, Omar Sebastian and Kris Soguilon.

Bintana, Victor Sison's collection of photographs of windows from old houses in Laguna and Quezon, on view until July 14 at The Alcove, Filipinas Heritage Library, Makati Avenue, Makati City.



A still from Juan Alcazaren's "Advance Broken Army Descending Staircase, Even," part of the "9 Objects" exhibit at Big Sky Mind

Now & Then: A Flower Journey, an exhibit of pressed flower by Penny Velasco at the Lopez Museum Shop, Rockwell Power Plant until July 18. For details, call 898-0891.

AseanARToday Philippines, an exhibit by the country's leading figurative painters ongoing until July 28 at the GSIS Museo ng Sining, Ground Level GSIS Financial Headquarters, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. For details, call 551-1301.

9 Objects: A Tribute to Marcel Duchamp, an exhibit that pays homage to Duchamp's work and commemorates his conceptual approach to art presented by Big Sky Mind Artists' Projects and Alliance Francaise de Manille opens July 15 and runs until August 12 at 66B Doña Juana Rodriguez St., New Manila, QC. For inquiries, call 725-5681.

Onstage

"100 Songs of Mary Fee," a one-woman monologue presented by Tanghalang Pilipino based on Tony Perez's translations of portions in "A Woman's Impressions of the Philippines" by Mary Fee—an American educator in the Philippines during the first decade of the 20th century, to be staged on July 14 and 15, 6:30 p.m. at the Philippine National Museum. For details, call 832-3661 to 832-1125 loc. 1620.

"The Trojan Women/Ang Pagguho ng Troya," a Greek play by Euripedes about the annihilation of the city of Troy and the struggle of its women, presented by UP Dulaang Laboratoryo until July 15 at the Teatro Hermogenes Ylagan, Faculty Center, UP Diliman. For details, call 712-0994.

Food

Bayview Park Hotel offers a variety of Chinese dishes in take-away boxes like Yuk Shi Chow Mien, Crab Meat Foo Yung, Chicken with Cashew Nuts, Spicy Pork with Hoisin Sauce and other well-loved Chinese meals. All orders are inclusive of fortune cookies. For inquiries, call 526-1555.

Cravings Café in Greenbelt transforms into an all-new lounging rendezvous every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with incredible menu of food-and-drink matches while listening to live music performances of Spirited Fridays.

Food and Beverage Expo 2001, events include product sampling, food and beverage tasting and cooking demonstration to be participated in by former First Lady Amelita Ramos and other celebrities, July 12-18 at the 4th Level of Festival Supermall, Filinvest Alabang. For details, call 820-7879 and 820-1570.

Atbp

3rd PBBY Children's Book Festival, a children's book fair, storytelling and book signing session and an exhibit of children's book illustrators presented by the Philippine Board on Books for Young People on July 14-22 at the Shangri-La Plaza Mall. For details, call 372-

3548 or 49.

A Spanish Detour, a talk to be given by National Artist for Literature F. Sionil Jose on his impressions, insights and memories of the Spain he recently revisited after 40 years, July 11, 7 p.m. at Salon de Actos, Instituto Cervantes. For details, call 526-1482 to 85.

Meg Magazine celebrates its third anniversary with a special issue featuring "MTV Fashionista" beauty Sarah Meier as she talks about how she became an MTV VJ and her thoughts on co-VJs Donita, Belinda and KC plus an exclusive peek into the lives of boy bands PlusOne and MyTown. For details, call 631-2859 loc. 40.

"Kita Kits, Kapit-Kapit sa 75th," an alumni homecoming of the College Department of Miriam College, July 14 at the Little Theater of Dr. Paz Adriano Hall of Miriam College. For details, call 435-9232 or 435-9240 loc. 248.

Christine Jacobs-Sandejas defines her idea of a complete and blissful personal life in the latest issue of **Family Reader Magazine** available at leading bookstores and newsstands. You can also log on to www.ivegotstyle.net for more details.

Art Strokes, a workshop conducted by Visual Communication Group featuring various styles in painting using charcoal, pastel, watercolor, oil, pen and ink, and mixed media. The group also offers a creative writing workshop for children and adults. For inquiries, call 740-7221.

This Is Me, a two-day writing workshop featuring lectures and actual writing exercises, July 14-15, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Earthlite, 4/F COD, Cubao. For inquiries, call 417-1521.

The **Linangan sa Imahen, Retorika, at Anyo (LIRA)** is now accepting applications to its **poetry workshop** in Filipino held every Saturday starting in August up to March next year. Submit at least five poems (typed double spaced on regular size bond paper), a bionote (including contact number, address, and/or email) and 1 x 1 ID picture to LIRA c/o Adarna House, Sgt. Limbaga St., Quezon City or email rta9@yahoo.com. Deadline is July 21.

Artists are invited to participate in the **2nd Cheongju International Craft Competition** to be held in Korea on October 5-21. The competition is open to artists who can create works that illuminates nature's values and present environmental problems arising from technological and industrial society today. Contest categories are ceramics, fiber, glass, metal, paper, wood works and crafts using other medium including traditional handicrafts. Entry forms and description of work is available at the website www.cheongjubiennale.or.kr. Deadline is July 21.

The latest book on cancer, **"How To Discover Cancer Through Self-Examination"** by Dr. Pan Mingji, is now available in the country. The book cites favorable nutrition and unfavorable food for cancer patients, plus detailed scientific explanation of symptoms of a variety of cancer disorders. For inquiries, call 415-8714 and 781-0069.

Araw, a quarterly magazine published by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, features interesting articles on film, theater and museum, articles on modern trends in the art scene, historical figures, places and events. In its newest issue, it focuses on nationhood with its theme, "Bansa: Unity in Diversity."

Break the Rules, a seminar on the latest in hair color techniques and Collection 2001 hairstyles using the Italian Cut Technique headed by Natalino Miani and Giovanni Damiano of Italian Style Framesi at the Limits Disco, 4/L Expansion Mall, Robinsons Galleria, July 10, 1-6 p.m. For details, call 829-7439.

X-manila

Flight & Light: Glassworks for the Home, new works combining wood and glass for a contemporary yet rustic look by Imelda M. Pangan, runs from July 9-22 at the Spazio, Level III, Gaisano Mall of Davao.

Likhaan: The UP Creative Writing Center is now accepting applications for fellowships to the **39th UP National Writers Workshop** to be held in UP Mindanao, Davao City on October, 2001. Ten fellowships will be granted to writers in English, Filipino, Sugbuanon, Hiligaynon and Waray. Only writers based in the Visayas and Mindanao are eligible. Applicants must submit their manuscripts, consisting of either 6 poems or 2 short stories or 2 one-act plays. For details, call (02) 922-1830 or 920-5301 loc. 7974.

The UPLB Triathlon Club and the Department of Human Kinetics UPLB will hold the **"First UPLB Triathlon Club Invitational Sprint Triathlon"** at Umali Freedom Park, UPLB Campus on July 21, 1 p.m. Aside from the Age-Group categories the race will feature a mixed relay category exclusive to residents of UP Los Baños community. For details, call 0917-368154, 0919-5559469 or email jacrj@imsp.uplb.edu.ph, polka@eudoramail.com or jasmn@laguna.net.

Seven Suites along Sumulong Highway, Antipolo City treats the whole family with **weekend buffet special** of salads, pizza, pasta specials and scoops of ice cream available every Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The hotel also features a grand barbecue buffet of fresh meat and seafood flavored with herbs, spices and special sauces every Friday and Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. For reservations call, 677-5401 to 06.

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules and tickets. You can reach us by e-mail at slm@inquirer.com.ph or by fax at 897-4811.